FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 65 *4 April 1978*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Inspects Jcint Forces Positions in Lebanon [VOP]	A	1	1/A7
'Arafat Receives Letter From Soviet Leaders [VOP]	A	1	1/A7
VOP Holds 'Isolationists' Responsible for Evacuees	A	1	1/A7
Hawatimah Interview With Kuwaiti Paper [AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM 23 Mar 78]	A	2	1/A8
Damascus Meeting in Support of Palestinians Ends	A	5	1/A11
'Arafat Willing To Open PLO Office in Turkey	A	6	1/A12

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Prime Minister Interviewed by GULF NEWS AGENCY	C	1	1/A13
Amir Sends Condolences to Iraq's Al-Bakr	C	1	1/A13
Bahrainis To Replace Foreigners in Private Sector	C	2	1/A14
Amir Receives Several Arab Information Ministers	C	2	1/A14
Information Minister Meets Qatari, Iraqi Ministers	C	2	1/A14
Qatari Information Minister Leaves	C	2	1/A14

KUWAIT

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM: Israeli Murder Squads in Lebanon	C	3	1/B1
AS-SIYASAH on Removal of Syrian Air Force Chief [1 Apr 78]	C	3	1/B1
Malaysian Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit	C	4	1/B2
Received by Amir	C	4	1/B2
Received by Prime Minister	C	4	1/B2

SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh Governor Calls for Arabs To Reunite	C	4	1/B2
Afgan President Begins Talks With Officials	C	4	1/B2
Departs Riyadh for Jidda	C	5	1/B3
Commander of Argentine Navy Arrives in Riyadh	C	5	1/B3
'UKAZ Calls Individual Arab Action Futile	C	5	1/B3

YEMEN--PDRY

Aden Radio on Struggle Against Shah, As-Sadat	C	6	1/B4

YEMEN--YAR

Al-Ghashmi Receives U.S. Ambassador in San'a'	C	6	1/B4

BRIEFS

New Ambassadors Present Credentials; Relations With Finland	C	6	1/B4

EGYPT

As-Sadat Resumes Tour of Upper Egypt Governates	D 1	1/B5
Arrives in Wadi al-Jadid Governorate	D 1	1/B5
Inspects Phosphate Project	D 1	1/B5
Speech in Wadi al-Jadid	D 1	1/B5
Arrives in Al-Wahat ad-Dakhilah	D 3	1/B7
Speech in Al-Wahat ad-Dakhilah	D 3	1/B7
Meets With Foreign Correspondents	D 4	1/B8
Tour of Wadi al-Jadid	D 4	1/B8
Meets With Correspondents on 3 April	D 5	1/B9
Ends Tour, Returns to Cairo	D 6	1/B10
Foreign Minister Kamil Meets With Various Ambassadors	D 7	1/B11
Meets With Soviet Ambassador	D 7	1/B11
Meets With Romanian Ambassador	D 7	1/B11
Further Report on Meeting	D 7	1/B11
Meets With U.S. Ambassador	D 8	1/B12
Meets With GDR Ambassador	D 8	1/B12
AL-AHRAM Comments on Israeli Demonstrations	D 8	1/B12
AL-AHRAM Sees Failure of Begin's Washington Visit [31 Mar 78]	D 9	1/B13
AL-AKHBAR Takes Issue With Moscow Report on Economy	D 11	1/C1
Military Court Passes Sentence in Al-Jihad Case	D 11	1/C1
Italian Foreign Trade Minister Arrives in Cairo	D 11	1/C1

IRAQ

Saddam Husayn Addresses Palestinian Film Festival Group	E 1	1/C2
AL-JUMHURIYAH: Syria Barrier to Rejectionist Front	E 3	1/C4
Student Rally Supports Palestinians, Condemns Syria	E 3	1/C4
INA Reports on Funeral of PFLP's Wadi' Haddad	E 4	1/C5
Lebanese PSP Leader Junblatt Concludes Visit	E 4	1/C5
Oil Minister Wants Dollar Dropped as Oil Price Unit	E 5	1/C6
Information Minister Returns from Bahrain	E 5	1/C6
Yugoslav Air Force Commander Arrives for Visit	E 5	1/C6

JORDAN

King Husayn Presides Over Cabinet Meeting	F 1	1/C7
Prime Minister Badran Leaves Amman for Tripoli	F 1	1/C7
Crown Prince Hasan Meets Visiting British MP	F 2	1/C8
King Husayn To Visit Yugoslavia in Near Future	F 2	1/C8
Syrian-Jordanian Industrial Committee To Meet	F 2	1/C8
New Executive Body for Workers Federation Elected	F 2	1/C8

LEBANON

Al-Huss, Deputies Discuss Southern Lebanon	G 1	1/C9
Foreign Minister Butrus Meets With Army Commander [Voice of Lebanon]	G 1	1/C9
President Sarkis Meets With Ambassador Parker	G 2	1/C10
General Siilasvuo Expected To Arrive in Beirut [Voice of Lebanon]	G 2	1/C10
Norwegian UN Forces Move to Southern Lebanon	G 2	1/C10
Lebanese Note for Israelis Given to UN Observer [Voice of Lebanon]	G 2	1/C10
Unified Command of Lebanese Forces Meeting [Voice of Lebanon]	G 2	1/C10

Southerners Stage Demonstration Demanding Return [Voice of Lebanon]	G	3	1/C11
INA: Iraq Continues Sending Aid to Evacuees	G	3	1/C11
Reports Describe Situation in Southern Lebanon	G	3	1/C11
Voice of Lebanon	G	3	1/C11
Baghdad INA	G	3	1/C11
Paris AFP	G	4	1/C12
Parker Reportedly Asked for UN Forces To Intervene	G	5	1/C13

SYRIA

Trade Union Letter Disputes Iraqi Claim on Lebanon	H	1	1/C14
Press Comments on Egyptian-Israeli Peace Efforts	H	2	1/D1
Prime Minister Receives Arab League's Riyad	H	2	1/D1
NEPSZABADSAG Carries Hungarian-Syrian Communique [26 Mar 78]	H	2	1/D1
Khaddam Receives Algerian Ambassador to Lebanon	H	4	1/D3

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Discusses Freedom of Man	I	1	1/D4

MAURITANIA

State Industry To Be Opened to Private Investment	I	2	1/D5

SUDAN

Numayri Chairs SSU Central Committee Meeting	I	2	1/D5

TUNISIA

L'ACTION: Carter Faces Credibility Problem [25 Mar 78]	I	3	1/D6

ISRAEL

IDF Spokesman Denies TIME Allegations of 'Crackdown' [POST 4 Apr 78]	N	1	1/D7
IDF Force in Lebanon 'Significantly' Reduced	N	1	1/D7
Terrorists Used Saudi-Supplied U.S. Arms in Bus Attack [POST 4 Apr 78]	N	1	1/D7
Next Weizman Trip To Focus on West Bank Issue [POST 4 Apr 78]	N	2	1/D8
Dayan Considering Slander Suit Against HA'AREZ	N	3	1/D9
Dayan Holds Unscheduled Talks With Ceausescu [POST 4 Apr 78]	N	4	1/D10
Ambassador Lewis Comments on Meeting With Begin	N	4	1/D10
Sharon Reiterates Importance of Sinai Settlements	N	5	1/D11
Peres Scores Begin Negotiating Stance in Interview [DAVAR 31 Mar 78]	N	5	1/D11
Record State Budget Passed by Knesset [POST 29 Mar 78]	N	7	1/D13

SOUTH ASIA

BANGLADESH

Zia: Democracy To Be Restored as Soon as Possible	S	1	1/D14

INDIA

Army Called In To Restore Order in Hyderabad City	S	1	1/D14
Death Toll Rises	S	2	1/E1
Another Killed in Uttar Pradesh; Curfew Reimposed	S	2	1/E1
Mrs Gandhi Opposes Death Sentence for Bhutto	S	2	1/E1

PAKISTAN

Grenade Thrown at U.S. Consulate General in Lahore	S	3	1/E2
Supreme Court Sets 6 May for Bhutto Hearing	S	3	1/E2
Former Army Chief Released From Detention	S	3	1/E2

APR - ± 1978

Item 856-B-6 PrEx 7.10: FBIS-MEA-78-65

FBIS-MEA-78-65
Tuesday
4 April 1978
Vol V No 65

DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

FROM BEST AVAILABLE COPY

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Available for Distribution
From NTIS

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

59

This publication contains current news and commentary monitored by FBIS from foreign broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, and periodicals. Items are processed from the first or best available source; it should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign-language sources are translated by FBIS. Those from English-language sources are transcribed, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS. Labels such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how FBIS processed the information from the original. Names rendered phonetically or in transliteration are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clearly heard but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source.

Users of this publication may cite FBIS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying it as the secondary source. For example: "FBIS reports that Radio Moscow announced . . ." or "FBIS has monitored a broadcast from Hanoi which says . . ."

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

'ARAFAT INSPECTS JOINT FORCES POSITIONS IN LEBANON

JN031609Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar yesterday inspected the positions of the joint forces in southern Lebanon. He then held a meeting for the joint forces command, during which the latest political and military developments were discussed.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also supervised the operations of the return of evacuees to their homes in southern Lebanon.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES LETTER FROM SOVIET LEADERS

JN031555Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, received the Soviet charge d'affaires in Beirut this morning. The radio correspondent has learned that during the meeting Brother Abu 'Ammar received a letter from the Soviet leaders.

VOP HOLDS 'ISOLATIONISTS' RESPONSIBLE FOR EVACUEES

JN031950Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1620 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The Zionist enemy and his local tools in Lebanon are the ones who created the phenomenon of evacuation and evacuees. They are also the ones who are exploiting it in the ugliest manner in order to achieve their sinister aims at the expense of the pain of the Lebanese and Palestinian human being and his simple right to life.

Despite the fact that the isolationist forces never stop using the evacuee issue in a suspicious and tendentious way in an attempt to attribute this problem to the Lebanese and Palestinian nationalist presence and to delude the evacuees and mobilize them against this presence, as if it were the cause of the problem, this tendentious isolationist logic falls apart before solid facts which the Lebanese and the Palestinians are aware of and do not need to be reminded of every day, especially since all have lived in the state of bitter war imposed on Lebanon by the isolationists. Moreover, all have paid the price of this war, which was meant to tighten the grip of the isolationists over Lebanon and its people as a prelude to handing Lebanon over as an easy prey to the Zionists, the allies of the isolationists and engineers of their wars and policies.

Had the Palestinian-Lebanese relationship not been a principled one with deep roots and sound content and aim, the miracle of the recent confrontation by which the Palestinians and the Lebanese destroyed the legend of the invincible army would not have happened. With the downfall of his legend they also destroyed a permanent Zionist dream, to plunder the south and turn its people into servants in the Zionist factories and into a consumer sector for Zionist products, which are in fact molded with Arab blood and usurped Arab rights.

Having failed in several consecutive attempts to deal a blow to the Palestinian-Lebanese relationship or even open a gap in its strong construction, through which he could infiltrate to achieve his wicked aims, the enemy resorted to the method of invasion, evacuation and concoction of massacres so that these might be the last arrow shot at the body of the south and its steadfast people and act as new material for instigation to be blared out by the isolationist trumpets through which they transmit their deadly poisons.

None of the Lebanese or Palestinian evacuees is ready to believe that the isolationists care for his safety, life and stability because the isolationists are the first to devise the process of evacuation with the force of arms. Those isolationists are the perpetrators of the crimes of Al-Ghawarinah, Dubayyah, Al-Maslakh, Al-Karantina, An-Nab'ab, Jisr al-Basha, Tall az-Za'tar, Al-Khiyam, Marj 'Uyun and others. It was the isolationists who clapped and cheered for Begin's planes while they were devastating whole Lebanese villages and exterminating Palestinian camps to the last man.

If those isolationists had cared for the lives and stability of the evacuees, they would not have done what they did during the 2-year war. Nor would they have allied themselves with the enemy to devastate the south, oppress its people and drive them out of their homes. They do all this and then impudently shed false tears over the fate of the evacuees, as if their hands, which are stained with the blood of the poor, were clean and honest, and as if their crimes against old people and children in the south and elsewhere had been wiped out or forgotten under the chains of the Zionist tanks and on the spears of Sa'd Haddad and his clique of fascist killers.

HAWATIMAH INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI PAPER

LD0101134Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 23 Mar 78 pp 18,19 LD

[Interview granted by Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DPFLP], to AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM correspondent Faruq 'Abd al-Karim in Beirut--date not specified]

[Excerpts] I asked brother Nayif: Do you believe that solving the problem of southern Lebanon is linked to solving the Middle East problem as a whole? Is it possible to reach an agreement to stop the bloodletting there?

He replied: The problem of southern Lebanon is completely tied to the Lebanese situation first and to the issues of the Arab-Israeli conflict second. In other words it is not a problem we have control over. We are one party among a large number of parties to the conflict. The main reason for the fact that this problem remains unsolved is the insistence of the conservative Lebanese forces, Israel, the conflicting political Arab powers and the United States on keeping this problem alive.

It was the "Lebanese front" that started the bloodshed in Lebanon following the resolutions of the Riyadh and Cairo summits. This was in agreement with Israel and in direct military, organizational and political cooperation with it.

The aim of the "Lebanese front" in continuing the bloodshed in the south is to use it as a means of pressure and blackmail not only against the Palestinian resistance and its Lebanese allies but also against the Syrian presence in Lebanon, as well as to attain a political solution for the Lebanese crisis consistent with its principles, which call for some form of parition of Lebanon and the breaking up of its integrity under the banner of multicultural communities. On the other hand, Israel wants to keep the problem of the south alive in order to use it as a means of pressure against the Palestinian resistance and Syria--the two parties to Arab steadfastness--and as a time bomb for future Israeli lightning strikes against the resistance in the south and the Syrian Army in case the Israeli-U.S. plans fail to drag the PLO and Syria into the Israeli-U.S. solutions for the problems of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Middle East crisis.

[Question] What is the U.S. role in what is happening?

[Answer] The United States is sponsoring this complex operation. This explains the events that followed the second Sinai agreement, and particularly what happened after the 14 February 1976 agreement to settle the Lebanese crisis. All the rightist Lebanese forces, Israeli and certain Arab countries, under the sponsorship of the United States, joined hands to abort this political settlement, to force everyone to remain silent over the second Sinai agreement and to attempt to push all the parties toward adopting stands agreeable to the U.S. solutions.

[Question] You were one of those who signed the "Tripoli Palestinian charter," but observers did not notice any steps to unify the Palestinian resistance factions. Instead there were some clashes between these factions after signing the charter. In early February "Abu Sayid" and two of his colleagues were assassinated by unidentified people. What is hindering this unity?

Shaking his head as if surprised by the question, he replied: The creation of splinter groups in the Palestinian revolution ranks is a kind of sabotage. This is how we view the formation of the "Abu Siyad" group and many other similar groups which are backed by various Arab countries. As for the Tripoli unity charter, it is, in our view, a militant document which the serious forces in the revolution ranks and in the PLO must continue to struggle to translate into action so that it will not be shelved like many of the unification programs and documents issued by the successive sessions of the Palestine National Council.

We in the DPFLP have declared that we will continue our persistent struggle with all the earnest forces of the revolution and the PLO to translate this document into action, but this process is impeded by the existence of two lines of policy within the PLO toward all issues on the agenda of the revolution, including the question of national unity. For example, we are now passing through a critical phase in the life of the revolution, the PLO and our entire national cause. We find in the PLO a certain line that strives and works through all kinds of tactics to maintain relations with As-Sadat and his policy of running after U.S. solutions. This line in particular has continually sought to undermine any unified active stand under the PLO banner against the policies of the U.S. and Egyptian presidents, kept for itself the secret messages exchanged almost daily with the two presidents, and allowed the PLO mission in Cairo to continue contacts with As-Sadat's government. On the other hand, we find a line that abides by the 15-point National Council program which is completely opposed to the As-Sadat-Carter plans and which is seriously committed to the resolutions of the Tripoli and Algiers steadfastness summits.

The insistence of the first line on continuing to deal with the Egyptian regime and the U.S. administration on matters of the Arab-Israeli conflict and to appease As-Sadat and bargain with him not only represents a departure from the National Council program and the Tripoli charter, but also pracatically and systematically hampers any attempt to translate this document into action. Therefore, we find that any honest attempt to establish national unity on a solid national base committed to the programs decided upon come to a dead end as a result of the policy of toeing the line of the U.S.-Egyptian solutions. In other words, the conflict between the axis of the pro-American Arabs and that of the Arabs insisting on implementing the resolutions of the Tripoli and Algiers steadfastness conferences seriously affects the internal Palestinian situation and paralyzes the Palestinian programs and resolutions agreed upon by the revolution forces within the framework of the Palestine National Council, which is considered the common body of the revolutionary factions.

[Question] You have opposed the Jordanian-Palestinian dialog to which Jordan invited you. Why?

[Answer] The call for a dialog between the PLO and Jordan is linked to the U.S.-Egyptian plans for expanding the negotiations table to include King Husayn. In order for Jordan to be able to take such a step it needs a Palestinian cover, and PLO backing in particular, so that it would completely absolve itself of the Rabat summit resolutions, which consider the PLO the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. After attempting for 10 years to create a substitute for the PLO and the failure of such attempts, the Jordanian regime has found itself unable to discuss the Palestine problem without PLO backing. This is the reason why Jordan insists on initiating a dialog--so that it can join the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations under a Palestinian umbrella and accompanied by Palestinian elements that claim to speak on behalf of the Palestinian people with the authorization of the PLO.

[Question] There were some who accused Iraq at the Algiers summit of not wishing to join the steadfastness conference because of its involvement in its relations with Iran, Syria and Egypt. What is your opinion about this?

[Answer] It is up to the steadfastness front to decide on these matters without haste or jumping to conclusions. The Algiers conference took two decisions regarding Iraq. The first was that a four-man delegation consisting of the Algerian, Libyan and PDRY foreign ministers and a representative of the PLO Political Department would go to Baghdad to discuss with the Iraqi brothers the need for joint action within the framework of the steadfastness front.

The second decision was to form a unified delegation representing all the Palestinian revolutionary factions that would go to Baghdad for the same purpose. As long as these two decisions have not been implemented, no judgment on this matter can be made. Only after a new round of detailed discussions can the steadfastness front collectively or individually judge the policy of Iraqi officials. We are in favor of an open-door policy that would lead to extending the strategic--military, material and geographical--depth of the Palestinian front. Meanwhile, the Tripoli unity charter insists on building the steadfastness front so that it consists of six parties--that is, including Iraq in it--and condemns any party that does not join this front. Therefore, we hope that the visit of the two delegations will take place and that the new efforts will succeed. This is the right and desired path. But should, God forbid, such efforts fail, then the steadfastness front will determine its stand on this matter clearly.

I asked the DPFLP secretary general: What is the minimum you would accept for a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the area?

With his usual calm, he answered: A just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the problems of the Arab-Israeli conflict can never materialize unless a radical democratic solution is reached for the Palestinian problem and the Israeli issue. The key to this solution is a unified democratic state on the entire Palestinian soil, a state hostile to imperialism, Zionism, chauvinism and reaction in which the Palestinians and Israelis will have equal rights and duties. Certainly this state will be part of a federal democratic Arab state. Until this radical and democratic solution is reached, the area will not witness a firm, comprehensive and real peace.

At the present stage we support the interim national program approved by the Palestine National Council. This provides for the right of the refugees to return to their homes from which they were evicted, for considering such a right as a matter of principle and a humanitarian issue that must be recognized by all international norms, for the implementation of UN Resolution 194 of 1948 and for our people's right to self-determination within an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza. All this must be unconditional. Implementation of this program will open the door to the radical democratic solution of the entire Palestinian problem and the Israeli issue. This interim program is now coupled with the resolutions of the Algiers and Rabat summits and backed by all the world forces supporting our people's right and hostile to Israeli aggression and expansionism as well as to the U.S. capitulatory solutions and defeatist initiatives.

Finally I asked Nayif Hawatimah: How do you evaluate the Palestinian delegation's visit to Moscow under Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and the talks with the Soviet leaders?

[Answer] The delegation's visit to Moscow was a further step on the path of solidarity with the cause of our people and is based on the Soviet Union's firm support for the Palestinian people and Arab peoples for the sake of liberating all the territories occupied in 1967, as well as for achieving the national rights of the Palestinian people, especially their right to return and determine their own future and to form an independent state.

In view of the growing U.S.-Israeli-Arab defeatist onslaught, it has become incumbent upon the revolution and the PLO to deepen, strengthen and develop solidarity and joint struggle between us and the people of the Soviet Union in order to repel this onslaught. This is compatible with the resolutions of the Tripoli steadfastness summit resolutions that call for the need to deepen the strategic alliance with the socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union, the main source of military and political support for our people and the Arab peoples. It was natural, therefore, that this visit had military aspects for strengthening the defense and militant capabilities of the revolution, the PLO and our people.

In general, the visit was a step toward hardening the strategic alliance between the revolution and its friends in the international front hostile to capitulatory solutions and defeatist plans. The Soviet Union has considerable weight in this front.

DAMASCUS MEETING IN SUPPORT OF PALESTINIANS ENDS

JN012215Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 1 Apr 78 JN

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has received a cable of greetings from the international conference in support of the peasants and people of Palestine at the conclusion of its meetings in Damascus. The following is the text of the cable:

The international conference in support of the peasants and people of Palestine held in Damascus on 30 March sends Your Excellency its highest regards and appreciation for your just stands of struggle toward the Arab and international causes of liberation, particularly your firm and courageous stand on the Palestinian cause, which represents the peak of the just struggle against the imperialist and Zionist forces which have implanted Israeli in the heart of the Arab nation as a spearhead and a base of aggression threatening the liberation movements and the progressive regimes in Asia and Africa.

We thank you for sponsoring this conference and for making all the elements of success available to it. We wish Your Excellency success and Arab Syria progress and prosperity.

This evening the conference concluded its meeting and issued its resolutions and recommendations. The conference expressed appreciation of Syria under President al-Asad and its sincere solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian Arab people to regain their legitimate rights, including their right to return, to self-determination and to establish their independent state on their own land.

The conference denounced the imperialist-Zionist plot aimed at annexing the Arab territories and condemned the establishment of the settlements and the Judaization of the Arab territories. The conference strongly condemned the treacherous aggression against southern Lebanon. The conference denounced the capitulatory stands of the president of the Egyptian regime and saluted all the strugglers in fraternal Egypt. The conference reaffirmed its full support for the front of steadfastness and confrontation and its progressive stands opposing imperialism and Zionism. The conference condemned Israel's flouting of the UN resolutions and affirmed the need to implement the UN resolutions which are aimed at restoring the Palestinian people's rights. The conference called for the pooling of Arab resources and capabilities for the battle of liberation and for the support of the PLO and the Palestinian people. The conference demanded that oil be used as a strategic weapon in the battle of liberation.

The conference recommended that a permanent committee for the support of the Palestinian peasants should be formed and that 30 March be observed every year as the international peasant struggle day in appreciation of the struggle of the Palestinian peasants inside the occupied territories. The conference reiterated its stand by the side of the movements of struggle against imperialism everywhere and denounced the imperialist plots aimed at striking at the national liberation movements in the world. The conference asked UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to use all his power to put pressure on Israel to implement the UN resolutions.

'ARAFAT WILLING TO OPEN PLO OFFICE IN TURKEY

TA031847Y Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 3 Apr 78 TA

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has said that the PLO is ready to send a representative to Turkey and that if an official request is made a PLO office might be opened in Turkey.

In a statement to a Turkish news agency correspondent in Beirut, 'Arafat said that the Turkish and Palestinian nations, because of their historic ties, should cooperate against the imperialist and Zionist forces which want to control the Middle East. He added that all Middle East nations should shoulder responsibility if a just peace is to be secured in the region. 'Arafat stated that in their attack against southern Lebanon, Israeli forces have used the latest U.S. arms and F-15 fighters. He added that despite the difficult conditions the Palestinians have been victorious over Israelis due to their strong will and perseverance. He concluded by saying that a solution to the Middle East problem cannot be found through ignoring the PLO.

BAHRAIN

PRIME MINISTER INTERVIEWED BY GULF NEWS AGENCY

JN011731Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1540 GMT 1 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpt] Manama, 1 April--His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister of Bahrain, has stated that cooperation and coordination among the various information media in the region are vital and important in enabling the media to serve the people in the gulf region. In an exclusive interview to the GULF NEWS AGENCY on the occasion of its inauguration this evening, the prime minister expressed the hope that the aim of these media will be to develop the citizen's ability to interact with the society in a constructive manner. The prime minister described the GULF NEWS AGENCY as a symbol of cooperation in the field of information among the states in the region.

The prime minister said that the security and stability of the gulf region can only be achieved through the collective cooperation of the states in the region without any foreign interference. He added that perfect coordination among the gulf states and positive joint cooperation among them in various fields are the bases for any form of collective security which might be agreed upon. The prime minister called for increased coordination and cooperation among the gulf states and for continued dialog among the gulf states officials in order to build a firm social, political and economic base which will serve as the groundwork for any security system that will protect and stabilize the region.

In reply to a question on the Bahraini Government's intention to diversify its sources of income, the prime minister said that his government's policy is based on diversifying the sources of income through the establishment of more short-term and long-term investment projects. His highness said that the Bahraini Government is spending more than $400 million annually on development projects.

On the stand of Bahrain toward the convening of an Arab summit conference aimed at closing Arab ranks, his highness affirmed the importance of Arab solidarity and unity of ranks and said that the Arab will will soon overcome the weakness of the Arabs and their current disunity. The prime minister expressed regret for the split in the Arab ranks and emphasized the importance of a joint Arab strategy and coordinated tactics to face the various forms of Israeli aggression. His highness announced that his country strongly supports the holding of an Arab summit conference which will restore Arab unity and solidarity, and he expressed the hope that this conference will be held as soon as possible.

AMIR SENDS CONDOLENCES TO IRAQ'S AL-BAKR

JN011935Y Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has expressed deep sorrow for the unfortunate incident which resulted in the death of President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr's son Muhammad. Information Minister Sa'd Qasim Hammudi has said that the amir has entrusted him to convey the greetings of his highness to President al-Bakr and Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn. This came during a meeting between the information minister and the Bahraini amir at a banquet given in Bahrain on the occasion of the inauguration of the GULF NEWS AGENCY today. The amir praised the fraternal relations between Iraq and Bahrain and stressed the need to expand cooperation between the two countries.

BAHRAINIS TO REPLACE FOREIGNERS IN PRIVATE SECTOR

JN311558Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1357 GMT 31 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 31 March--Khalifah Khalfan, the director of labor in the Bahraini Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, has declared that a program to Bahrainize posts will be carried out this year and that the nine major companies to be affected are: the Bahrain Petroleum Company; Bahrain Aluminum; Gulf Air, Cable and Wireless; the Arab Company for the Construction and Repair of Ships; the Chartered Bank; the British Bank of the Middle East; the National Bank of Bahrain and the Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait.

In a statement published in the newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ today, Khalfan said that the ministry is currently considering the formation of a special department to supervise the implementation of this program. He added: We will give these companies ample time to carry out the program. Khalfan said that pressure will be put on the private sector because the Labor Ministry is responsible for finding jobs for Bahraini graduates. Government departments cannot take any more employees, he added.

Khalfan pointed out that the program will be discussed with the representatives of the companies because it is the ministry's intention to replace foreigners by Bahrainis, especially in key posts.

AMIR RECEIVES SEVERAL ARAB INFORMATION MINISTERS

JN011857Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1352 GMT 1 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpt] Manama, 1 April--The Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah this morning received Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, Saudi information minister; Shaykh Ahmad ibn Hamid, minister of culture and information in the UAE; 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, Qatari information minister; Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, Iraqi information minister; and Sa'dun Muhammad al-Jasim, information under secretary in the (?Kuwaiti) Information Ministry. The ministers are in Bahrain to attend the inauguration of the Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY which will be held this evening.

INFORMATION MINISTER MEETS QATARI, IRAQI MINISTERS

JN021046Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 2 April--Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyid today met with Qatari Information Minister 'Isa al-Kawari. GNA has learned that during the meeting they discussed cooperation in the field of information between the two fraternal countries.

The Bahraini information minister also met today with Iraqi Information Minister Sa'd Qasim Hammudi. Matters of interest to the two countries, particularly information and cooperation in this field, were discussed. The meeting was attended by Shaykh 'Isa ibn Rashid Al Khalifah, Bahraini Information Ministry under secretary, and Iraqi Ambassador to Bahrain Nasir 'Abd al-Qadir al-Hadithi.

Qatari Information Minister Leaves

JN021950Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1816 GMT 2 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpts] Manama, 2 April--'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, Qatar's information minister, left Manama this evening for Doha after a 2-day visit to Bahrain. During the visit he attended the official opening ceremony of the GULF NEWS AGENCY.

In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY, Al-Kuwari expressed his happiness at meeting with His Excellency Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain. He said that the meeting resulted in wise directives, which will be our guidelines not only in the information sphere but also in all spheres of cooperation in this area. Al-Kuwari praised the establishment of the GULF NEWS AGENCY. He said the new agency is important because it will help strengthen information cooperation in this area and will also help link the area with the outside world and convey a true and balanced image of what goes on in this area at a time when the world is observing us.

Al-Kuwari was seen off by Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad, Bahrain information minister; Shaykh 'Isa ibn Rashid Al Khalifah, information under secretary; and senior Information Ministry officials.

KUWAIT

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM: ISRAELI MURDER SQUADS IN LEBANON

JN040946Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0850 GMT 4 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 4 April--The Kuwaiti AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM today reported that Israel recently sent to Lebanon a number of squads to assassinate a number of Palestinian resistance leaders and Lebanese personalities with a view to arousing suspicion against the Arab deterrent forces and unleashing a new civil war.

The paper said that these squads entered Lebanon via Beirut airport using forged Arab and foreign passports.

AS-SIYASAH ON REMOVAL OF SYRIAN AIR FORCE CHIEF

LD031520Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 1 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Text] Beirut--Special dispatch--Political circles in Beirut believe that the removal of Maj Gen Naji Jamil from his post as commander of the Syrian air force and President al-Asad's adviser on national security affairs at this time implies several things, including the following:

1. One of the aims of this action was to appease the anger of some Syrian and Palestinian circles at the nonintervention of the Syrian air force in the Palestinian-Israeli battles in the south. Therefore, the removal of the air force commander and of several of his aides was an attempt to rectify the situation, as well as to blame Major General Jamil personally and his aides for this failure.

2. The removal of Major General Jamil was timed to take place just before the forming of a new Syrian Cabinet so as to forestall the stories about his personal ambition to assume the prime ministership and thereby take over a top political job.

3. According to political analysis in Beirut, Major General Jamil has always been less enthusiastic than other Syrian officials in cooperating with the Soviets. Therefore, the recent period which witnessed a series of coordination visits between the Syrian and Soviet leaders was anticipated to witness Soviet pressure to curb the powers of those opposing it in the Syrian command. Consequently, the removal of the Syrian air force commander means a victory for the line that favors cooperation between Damascus and Moscow.

MALAYSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

Received by Amir

LD011850Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Apr 78 LD

[Summary] This morning the amir received Shaykh al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who introduced to his highness Malaysian Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen and the delegation accompanying him on the occasion of their visit to the country.

Received by Prime Minister

LD011852Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Apr 78 LD

[Summary] In his office today Shaykh S'ad al-'Ibdallah as-Sabah, prime minister and heir apparent, received Malaysian Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen on the occasion of his visit to the country. The meeting was attended by the foreign minister.

SAUDI ARABIA

RIYADH GOVERNOR CALLS FOR ARABS TO REUNITE

LD022300Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Apr 78 LD

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of the Riyadh area, has called on all Arabs to reunite ranks in order to confront the Israeli enemy who exploited the discord among the Arabs to launch his aggression against southern Lebanon.

In an interview granted to the Lebanese AL-ANWAR published today, his highness said that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has always strived by every means for the unity of ranks and reunification of the brother officials and leaders in all Arab countries. It will spare no effort for the sake of Arab solidarity and a reunion of the Arabs.

Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz stated that Saudi Arabia will not relinquish its commitments, which are imposed by religion and Saudi duties, to support and strengthen the Arab struggle so that Jerusalem and the occupied Arab territory may be liberated, that the Palestinian people may recover their rights and that the evils of foreign currents which threaten the Arab nation may be banished. Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz called for the speedy implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425, which calls for Israel's immediate withdrawal from southern Lebanon. He expressed the hope that the aggression may be an incentive for the Arab states to reexamine their interrelations so that they may unite their ranks against the Zionist enemy, who does not differentiate between one Arab country and another.

AFGAN PRESIDENT BEGINS TALKS WITH OFFICIALS

LD031250Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpts] The Saudi-Afgan talks began at 10[illegible] today at the guest palace at An-Nasiriyah under the chairmanship of King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Afgan President Mohammad Daud. The SAUDI NEWS AGENCY has learned that the two sides have discussed matters concerning the strengthening of bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries and all current international and Islamic affairs.

Meanwhile, Afgan President Mohammad Daud has expressed his country's extreme concern regarding the situation in the Middle East. He appealed to the Arab leaders to close their ranks and unify their positions and support each other in the face of matters of destiny, particularly their historical issue. He reiterated his country's support for the Arab position toward the Middle East question. He said what has happened in this question is of great concern and importance to us.

In an interview with the SAUDI NEWS AGENCY, he urges the Islamic nation to strengthen its solidarity to rise to the level of events and realize its role and perform its mission to the best of its ability.

Departs Riyadh for Jidda

LD031833Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Apr 78 LD

[Text] His Excellency Mohammad Daud, the president of Afghanistan, left Riyadh for Jidda at 1630 today, on a further leg of his current tour of the kingdom. His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was at the airport at the head of a delegation to see the president off. This evening his excellency will go on a pilgrimage to Mecca. Tomorrow he will visit the mosque in Madina.

COMMANDER OF ARGENTINE NAVY ARRIVES IN RIYADH

LD032103Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera, member of the ruling junta and commander of the Argentine naval forces, arrived in Riyadh this evening on an official visit to the kingdom to last for several days. He is here at the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation. He was welcomed on his arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces Gen 'Uthman al-Humayd, and a number of senior armed forces commanders and officers of the land, naval and air forces.

'UKAZ CALLS INDIVIDUAL ARAB ACTION FUTILE

LD312259Y Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 29 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Excerpts] The Arab initiative is to reconcile the conflicting Arab confrontation states at reaching a new formula of action in the face of Israeli aggression against Arab territories, now that it has been proved that individual Arab actions are futile and incapable of confronting Israeli aggression, because as a result of the divergent Arab stands, Zionism has gained military and political advantages that give it supremacy.

The current Arab efforts to achieve this end cannot possibly bring about a complete identity of views among the Arabs because such a demand is impossible. Rather, such efforts aim at reaching agreement on the nature of Arab objectives and interests so that, through such agreement, the various Arab roles will be coordinated that the individual results achieved by each will contribute to achieving the universal and higher interests to which we all aspire.

We believe that the Arab League, in its capacity as the organizational structure of the entire Arab nation, must reach a clear agreement on the goals and then assign roles to its member states, because organization of political action in the confrontation with Israel is of greater importance and impact than assigning military roles.

All the Arab countries must fully realize that acting according to their own individual views can never achieve the national interests of the Arab nation, particularly since confrontation cannot be exclusive to any particular state but must be the joint responsibility of all the Arab states.

This makes it necessary to base joint action on new concepts derived from a comprehensive view of the precise objectives. This is particularly important because Israel is trying to achieve more important results through political and peaceful activities than what it has achieved through military action in the Middle East.

YEMEN--PDRY

ADEN RADIO ON STRUGGLE AGAINST SHAH, AS-SADAT

LD0321100Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Apr 78 LD

[Ja'far Aydarus commentary]

[Excerpts] The uprising in Egypt on 18 and 19 January, 1977, and the current uprising in Iran, which adds another dimension to the revolutionary movement in the Middle East, have a common social foundation. They are directed against the class injustices perpetrated on the toiling masses, and they are also directed against the collusion of the ruling forces with imperialism and Zionism against the liberation and social (?movement) of the peoples in the region. The regimes of As-Sadat and the shah are essentially the centers of reaction in the region and they are also the centers of the leadership of the counterrevolution in the region.

The popular struggle in this region has developed in a manner radically different from that of the previous 30 years, which were marked by military coups d'etat as a consequence of the balance of power. The popular uprisings are now entering a new phase, indicative of the development and the genuineness of the revolutionary movement in this region.

YEMEN--YAR

AL-GHASHMI RECEIVES U.S. AMBASSADOR IN SAN'A'

JN0117333Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Command Council Chairman and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi today received U.S. Ambassador in San'a' Thomas Scotes on the occasion of the end of his tour of duty. Command Council Member and Paratroop Commander Maj 'Abdallah 'Abd al-'Alim also received at his office this morning the U.S. ambassador in San'a'.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS--Manama, 1 April--His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, today received the credentials of Dr (Frederich Lidau) as FRG ambassador to Bahrain. He also received the credentials of Dr (Francey Siegmid) as Austrian ambassador to Bahrain. [Text] [Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 April 78 JN]

RELATIONS WITH FINLAND -A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has stated to SABA' NEWS AGENCY that an agreement has been reached between the YAR and Finland to establish diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level as of this month. [Text] [San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 April 78 JN]

AS-SADAT RESUMES TOUR OF UPPER EGYPT GOVERNATES

Arrives in Wadi al-Jadid Governorate

NC011015Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Apr 78 NC

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat today arrived in Wadi al-Jadid Governorate on a visit during which he will inspect food security and some other industrial projects in the governorate. During this visit President as-Sadat is scheduled to meet with the political, popular and executive leaders of the Al-Wadi al-Jadid Governorate.

Inspects Phosphate Project

NC011335Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Apr 78 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat arrived in Wadi al-Jadid at noon today accompanied by Husin Mubarak, Mamduh Salim, 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman and the ministers of agriculture, irrigation, industry, local government and housing. Upon his arrival the president was received by the head of the presidential bureau, Hasan Kamil; the governor of Wadi al-Jadid, Muhammad Fahmi Najm; and the political and popular leaders of the governorate.

The president boarded a helicopter which took him to the work site of the Abu Tartur phosphate project, where he inspected the work there. He heard a detailed report from the industry minister on the development of work in this project, which will bring in an estimated annual income of about 250 million pounds. Production will begin in 1980. Amid the cheers of the engineers and workers of the project, the president left the Abu Tartur area for Wadi al-Jadid, where he saw the exhibition staged on this occasion. The exhibition consists of various samples of projects which the governorate is famous for.

Speech in Wadi al-Jadid

NC011628Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1350 GMT 1 Apr 78 NC

[Speech by President Anwar as-Sadat at a meeting with political, popular and executive leaders of the Wadi al-Jadid Governorate at the governorate's conferences hall--live]

[Text] In the name of God. Brothers, sisters, sons and daughters, citizens of the Wadi al-Jadid: I wanted very much to meet with you. Meeting with you today, praise be to God, I thank you very much for these effusive sentiments which every man, woman, young man and girl has expressed. I promise you that I will double my efforts so that we may together build Egypt's prosperity and strength.

You know that your people in the old valley are suffering from overpopulation in the narrow strip on which they are living. This is why hopes are pinned on your valley--the Wadi al-Jadid. [applause]

I have my dreams, which I hope will come true with the help of God Almighty, who has helped me in everything I have done. [cheers]

Coming to you today, I dream, with the aid of God, of a brilliant future for your homeland here on the land of the Wadi al-Jadid. I hope this dream will come true through a complete revolution which all of us must start and participate in. [applause]

This is the third revolution. The first was the 23 July Revolution, the second was the 15 May Revolution and the third is your revolution--the revolution of the Wadi al-Jadid. [prolonged cheers and applause] With the help of God and with our own will, we must start this revolution with all determination and resolve.

Today I have heard reports by officials in all branches on the complete scientific studies. We are now living in the age of science and we must apply it. I have seen boundless potentials here on the land of your new valley, potentials which are confirmed by scientific research. These potentials provide definite solutions to all the old valley's problems. All that is required is man's efforts. God Almighty has granted us the land, water, climate, resources and the Egyptian man, with all his nobility and strength of character. All we have to do is to sweat to make all our people prosper and make time go around in a full cycle and restore to you here in the Wadi al-Jadid the initiative of carrying out a revolution for the sake of your entire country and for the sake of the old valley. [applause] Let time turn a full cycle so that you may again become the source of welfare, development, greenness and abundance of food and all resources. Let time go around so that you may become again what you used to be thousands of years ago.

With the help of God Almighty, I today saw a giant project which is as important as, if not more important than, what we boast about--the High Dam. This is the phosphate project. [applause] Let time go around a full cycle so that you may reassume your responsibility toward your country and become a shrine to be visited by all and a hope for all.

With God's help we must start this revolution. With God's help we must achieve everything we seek to achieve as soon as possible, in record time. All I ask you to do is to set an example to your old valley--an example of the love and fraternity to which you have been adhering up to now. With love we build. With fraternity, with cooperation and with sweat we build for this and future generations an honest, strong life that God Almighty has willed for us, a life that is founded on the principles which this sacred soil, the soil of our land, makes us learn, a life in which there is security for every person, now and in the future, and for his children and grandchildren, a life in which every person will assert himself by building and by leaving for those who come after him a lofty structure so that they may complete it and give Egypt, the motherland of us all, what is her due so that no one, from one end of Egypt to the other, will not enjoy complete protection with regard to justice, sickness, old age and death. [applause]

I thank God that I am visiting you at a time when your country, despite all the difficulties it is experiencing, and we ourselves are living a completely free life for the first time for thousands of years--a life in which all of us seek security, dignity and prosperity for the Egyptians and their generations.

The responsibility is now yours. The state institutions are now carrying out all their responsibilities. Law prevails and love too prevails. Love instead of hatred and fraternity instead of division must prevail. We are now experiencing all this, and we will endure it until the revolution begins here. As I have told you and as time has made complete cycle, you will be responsible for Egypt's prosperity, for the prosperity of your brothers in the old valley, for the abudance, for the strength and for the impregnability of Egypt.

As of today, I will hold discussions with all the officials so that your connection with the wadi will be stronger day by day, God willing. [applause] All I hope for is that when the new societies, which are the only hope for Egypt, are established you will preserve the traditions of this sacred soil-traditions which you have preserved for thousands of years--so that you may teach them to those who come to you from the old valley, some of whom have deviated and have begun to be swayed by strange currents. When they come to you here, put them in their proper place and teach them what you have preserved and what, in reality, is Egypt's hope, Egypt's strength and Egypt's impregnability--genuineness, firmness and faith.

I implore God Almighty to grant you success and to grant us all success in what we have taken upon ourselves. I also implore the Almighty to grant us perpetual success so that we may build the structure of science and faith, the structure of love and fraternity.

Our lord, (?they say), let not our hearts deviate now after Thou has guided us, but grant us mercy from thine own presence, for Thou art the grantor of bounties without measure. [verse from the Koran] Peace be upon you.

Arrives in Al-Wahat ad-Dakhilah

NC021034Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Apr 78 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat is continuing his tour of the Wadi al-Jadid Governorate for the second day. His excellency arrived in Al-Wahat ad-Dakhilah this morning from Al-Wahat Al-Kharijah, capital of the Wadi al-Jadid. President as-Sadat was accompanied by Prime Minister Mamduh Salim and some other ministers. Upon his arrival the president was received by the governor of the Wadi al-Jadid, Muhammad Fahmi Najm, and the political and executive leaders of the governorate. The president was accorded a splendid popular reception upon his arrival in Al-Wahat ad-Dakhilah City. Citizens lined the streets through which the president's motorcade passed. Arches of triumph were erected and pictures of the president were posted on houses and shops, and posters welcoming the president were hung.

Speech in Al-Wahat ad-Dakhilah

NC021236 [Editorial Report NC] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1119 GMT on 2 April carries a live relay of an 11-minute speech delivered by President Anwar as-Sadat at a ceremony held in Al-Wahat ad-Dakhilah, where he arrived today in the course of his inspection tour of the Wadi al-Jadid Governorate.

In his speech President as-Sadat thanks the people for their sentiments and expresses his pleasure at visiting them. He says that we are all one family, and we must help each other in order to develop the country.

President as-Sadat refers to the sufferings of the people in the old valley as a result of overpopulation. He then refers to his previous remarks that although the Egyptian economy was at below zero level in 1973, this did not prevent Egypt from launching the canal crossing operation. He says Egypt achieved victory not for itself alone but for all the Arabs, despite its bad economic situation. He says the October generation was liberated from fear, insecurity, oppression, detention and the former hated partisanship which existed before the 23 July Revolution.

He says: I wanted to meet with you so that from this sacred good land we can together begin our green revolution in order to provide food security to every citizen in the old valley. He says we must begin our green revolution for the sake of Egypt and all the people living in it and for "building Egypt's strength, building security and peace for every man and woman and insuring the future for our generation."

As-Sadat then says that God has given Egypt land, water and man. So, he says, let us begin our green revolution with God's blessing and ask God to grant us success.

Meets With Foreign Correspondents

NC021829Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 2 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Wadi al-Jadid, 2 April--President Anwar as-Sadat today met with foreign correspondents at the end of his visit to the Wadi al-Jadid. The text of the reporters' questions and the president's answers follows:

Question: Mr President, you are the first Egyptian ruler to come here for thousands of years. What is the purpose of your visit?

Answer: As I said before, the future of Egypt lies here. As you know, we live in a limited area in the old valley. This is the new valley. I hope you were here yesterday to hear about the possibilities of the land here. There are millions of feddans. Therefore, instead of having a population explosion in the old valley, we must come here. Here lies the future of Egypt.

Question: Have you heard of what happened in Israel yesterday?

Answer: I heard, but I have no details.

Question: Some 35,000 Israelis staged a demonstration demanding that Begin be more flexible.

Answer: Very well, they are very sensible.

Question: Do you believe that time is in your favor?

Answer: As I said before, by nature I am optimistic.

Question: How much longer can you wait--months or years?

Answer: I have no comment now. What I can tell you is that our initiative is still valid and stands. Our efforts to establish a lasting and just peace have made some progress.

Question: Must the next move come from Israel?

Answer: Certainly, it must come from there.

Tour of Wadi al-Jadid

NC031625Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] At noon today President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat visited (Wahat al-Farafirah) as part of the tour his excellency is making to inspect food security and desert construction projects.

The president was accompanied by Prime Minister Mamduh Salim, food security projects supervisor 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, the ministers of agriculture, irrigation, housing and industry and the governor of the Wadi al-Jadid.

Meets With Correspondents on 3 April

NC031958Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1842 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Al-Wahat al-Bahriyah, 3 April--President Anwar as-Sadat met with foreign correspondents today at the end of his visit to Al-Wahat al-Bahriyah. The text of the questions and President as-Sadat's answers follows:

Question: Mr President, what is your feeling after your 3-day visit?

Answer: Very good. I am really happy. We have seen something new here: a community in the desert, in the heart of the desert. We came from Al-Wahat ad-Dakhilah up to here. I believe, as I said before, that this is Egypt's future.

Question: Israeli radio reported that Mr Weizman will return again Thursday. Is this true?

Answer: Really, I have no information on this. He did not inform me, but he can come. There is no objection at all to his coming.

Question: When Weizman came to you, what would you have wanted him to bring?

Answer: Well, what we must do now is give some momentum to the peace process. Therefore, I would like to see a move by the Israeli side that would provide such momentum once again.

Question: How long could Weizman's shuttle trips continue?

Answer: Well, I really do not know, but I hope they will not continue for a long time. As we know, the Arab-Israeli conflict, particularly following the 1967 war, has continued 11 years up to now. I believe this is enough time to end any conflict. Following my initiative, I believe we must expedite the establishment of peace.

Question: In an Egyptian magazine yesterday you described Menahem Begin as an old-style politician and said he is incapable of responding to your initiative, which has destroyed the psychological barrier. Is Weizman different?

Answer: I do not wish to compare Begin and Weizman, because each has his own personality and style. I will not compare them so as not to stir up anything. They are colleagues. I like Weizman very much as a man, as I said before. He is as sincere in his desire for peace as he is loyal to his country.

Question: Do you see some hope in the fact that you would be speaking in the same language?

Answer: As I told you, I am always optimistic.

Ends Tour, Returns to Cairo

NC032145Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Excerpts] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat returned to Cairo this evening after concluding a tour of Wadi al-Jadid Province, Wahat al-Farafirah and Al-Wahat al-Bahriyah. This afternoon President as-Sadat visited Wahat al-Farafirah.

His excellency inspected the new well that will bring an expansion in agriculture. He also planted olive and date trees, thus inaugurating the reclamation of new areas of land and the cultivation of various crops with the water available in Wahat al-Farafirah wells.

After his visit to Wahat al-Farafirah, President as-Sadat visited Al-Wahat al-Bahriyah, accompanied by Prime Minister Mamduh Salim and the ministers of agriculture, irrigation, industry and housing. On his arrival in Al-Wahat al-Bahriyah airport, the president was received by Al-Jizah Province Governor Engineer Ahmad 'Abd al-'Akhir, the political, popular and executive leaderships, and the province's members in the People's Assembly.

After the reception ceremony, the president heard a detailed explanation from the Al-Jizah governor about the agricultural expansion operations in Al-Wahat al-Bahriyah in accordance with the president's instructions to provide food security for the citizens. The president then inspected the agricultural crops produced in Al-Wahat al-Bahriyah. He then toured some private farms. During his tour he met with peasants and discussed their problems. He asked the officials to see that these problems are solved quickly.

Later the president went to the iron and steel mines in Al-Wahat al-Bahriyah, where he heard a detailed report by the minister of industry and the mines officials about the progress of production in the iron and steel industry.

The president visited the iron and steel mines and saw the various stages of the iron-ore-mining operation. He also visited the iron ore dumps and quarries where he saw the iron-ore-crushing and -mixing operations as well as the operation of transporting the iron ore from Al-Wahat al-Bahriyah to Hulwan.

The president then visited a vegetable farm project for the iron mine workers. Expressing his admiration for the agricultural and industrial projects he inspected during his tour, the president said: My dreams have now become reality. One thing remains: effort, work and ambition. He added: The government alone cannot carry out the projects that I have seen. The Egyptian individual must also sweat so that we may eventually achieve what we seek to achieve and confront the crises we face in food security and housing. We must not forget that our population is constantly increasing and that we are still cultivating the same area we have cultivated for a long time. Therefore, the Wadi al-Jadid represents new strength and new hope for Egypt.

The president added: In the food security projects, only the southern and eastern parts of the desert remain to be exploited. The green revolution will start immediately. I deliberately called it a green revolution because I will not allow anything to stand in its way since it is our hope to solve our present and future problems.

The president said; I heard the explanations of the officials in the Wadi al-Jadid and saw the subterranean lake as well as the vast areas of land which can be cultivated. I also saw the minerals. We saw all this and I was very happy. I visited Al-Wahat ad-Dakhilah and today I visited Wahat al-Farafirah and Al-Wahat al-Bahriyah. I can say that the northern part of the Western Desert has a subterranean lake. There is thousands of times more water in this lake than that stored in the High Dam lake. Thus, we have found the solution for Egypt's future with regard to water and new land.

FOREIGN MINISTER KAMIL MEETS WITH VARIOUS AMBASSADORS

Meets with Soviet Ambassador

NC021553Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil met today with the Soviet ambassador in Cairo. They discussed the situation in the Middle East and relations between the two countries. The foreign minister explained to the Soviet ambassador the results of Egypt's efforts for peace, as clearly evident in the Israeli public opinion's increasing opposition to Begin's intransigence and in world public opinion's increasing support for Arab rights.

The minister pointed out that in view of this, the continuation of Soviet press campaigns would neither serve the cause of peace in the Middle East nor promote a desire to restore normal relations between the two countries on the basis of mutual respect, noninterference in domestic affairs and objectivity in dealing with problems.

Meets With Romanian Ambassador

NC031253Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 3 April--Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil today met with Romanian Ambassador in Cairo Petru Burlacu. Discussion centered on the latest developments in the Middle East in light of Israel's obstruction of the peace efforts in the area, the contacts underway in this connection and Egypt's principled stand on the principles of a just and permanent peace. Discussion also dealt with international topics of mutual interest and relations between Egypt and Romania.

Further Report on Meeting

NC031809Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil today met with the Romanian ambassador to Egypt. The Romanian ambassador emphasized his country's support for the Arab states and Arab rights, including the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He also noted that Romania strongly opposes the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon--an aggression which constitutes a serious development and a violation of international law--and is concerned about it. He said that this aggression can lead to more serious problems in the Middle East.

Meets With U.S. Ambassador

NC032158Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and U.S. Ambassador Eilts today discussed bilateral relations and the situation in Lebanon. During the meeting, the foreign minister asserted the need for Israel to withdraw from southern Lebanon immediately and for the UN forces to play their role in the area. The U.S. ambassador explained the efforts his country is exerting in this respect. The two then reviewed the Middle East situation in general.

Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil said that the situation in the Horn of Africa was also discussed, including the results of the U.S. envoy's talks in Somalia.

After the meeting, the foreign minister replied to a question on Egyptian-Soviet relations. He said that he explained to the Soviet ambassador yesterday that Egypt desires good relations with all states on the basis of mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs. He also noted the dissemination of false reports on the Egyptian peace initiative. His excellency added that the first step to restoring normal relations is putting an end to press attacks.

On the other hand, the foreign minister described the demonstrations that have taken place in Israel as a healthy sign indicating that some Israelis understand the reality of peace and that peace cannot be established through aggression or usurping the rights of others.

Meets With GDR Ambassador

NC032201Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil met with the GDR ambassador to Egypt this evening. They discussed ways to strengthen relations between the two countries. They also reviewed the developments in the Middle East in light of Egypt's efforts to find a just and comprehensive settlement.

AL-AHRAM COMMENTS ON ISRAELI DEMONSTRATIONS

NC030645Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Writing under the headline "The Israeli People Break Their Silence," AL-AHRAM today says: Reports from Israel confirm that the gap between Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and his people is increasing. The people have broken their silence and have staged demonstrations to voice opposition to Begin's policy. The demonstrators carried placards with slogans saying: Peace is better than the land and peace is better than Israel's expansion.

The paper adds: This gap, which is the first in the history of Israel, came in the wake of the serious peace moves which Egypt made and which culminated in the historic visit of President as-Sadat to Jerusalem. The Israeli people's demonstrations prove that although this initiative is more than 4 months old, it is still well remembered by every Israeli citizen and that the Israeli people are no longer satisfied with the moves made by Begin in response to this initiative.

AL-AHRAM further says: After losing the support of the United States and world public opinion, Begin has also lost the support of his people, who, like all other peoples, desire to live in conditions of peace and stability. However, Begin believes that he can obtain peace, security, land, settlements and everything else. By his deeds, Begin is getting further away from peace rather than closer to peace. World public opinion is witnessing Begin as he is moving far away from peace. The United States, the main ally, the greatest supporter and the huge supplier of Israel, is witnessing Begin as he is moving away from peace. Even Begin's people now see him moving far away from peace. Can Begin revise his calculations and heed to the voice of the people?

AL-AHRAM SEES FAILURE OF BEGIN'S WASHINGTON VISIT

LD032003Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 31 Mar 78 pp 1, 3 LD

[Chief editor 'Ali Hamdi al-Jammal article: "The U.S.-Israeli Confrontation"]

[Excerpts] The failure of Menahem Begin's visit to Washington is a matter that must make us take a long pause because, in my opinion, it represents a significant turning point in the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is an established historical fact that had it not been for the total bias of the United States in favor of Israel throughout the past years--a bias which was both a U.S. policy and a program--the conflict would not have continued the way it has and Israel would not have been able to defy international law and the UN resolutions.

The failure of Begin's visit became apparent even before the visit started. When Begin decided to launch an aggression against southern Lebanon and to occupy Tyre, he imagined that he would be gaining new grounds in his confrontation with the United States and, therefore, would be able to avert the pressures he felt were being brought to bear on him by sources of power in Washington. Obviously, Begin based his calculations on exploiting his forces' occupation of southern Lebanon as a means of bargaining over whatever proposals Washington might put to him to end the Arab-Israeli conflict.

But it appears that President Jimmy Carter became aware of this plan. Following his contacts with Cairo after the Israeli forces' entry into southern Lebanon, he recognized the game and, therefore, acted more swiftly than the Israeli prime minister.

As a result, the United States supported the convening of the Security Council and submitted a U.S. proposal to the council calling for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon.

When Begin arrived in Washington he found that everything had been completed. The Security Council had issued its resolution, and the Israeli prime minister was thus deprived of the opportunity to bargain over or dictate his terms for withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

Therefore, the failure of Begin's visit to Washington began with the Security Council resolution, which the United States supported. This resolution gives an indication of the U.S. intention not only to overcome this side issue, but also the entire Middle East problem.

Therefore, when President Carter met with Begin the points of difference on the negotiations were as follows:

--The U.S. action at the Security Council before Begin's arrival in Washington.

--The U.S. rejection of Begin's interpretation of Resolution 242.

--The U.S. Government's determination to link supplying Israel with the aircraft it wants with the deal to supply aircraft to Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

To this was added what President Carter said in his farewell speech to Menahem Begin. He said that in 1978 Israel has security and military strength like it has never had before in its history.

In other words, Israel can no longer tell the U.S. public that it is a small state surrounded by enemies who want to exterminate it. Rather, as the U.S. President attested, it is--on the contrary--a massive military power. Thus, Israel has lost an important propaganda weapon by which it used to fight its propaganda wars in the United States and the world.

Nevertheless, President Carter was anxious to reaffirm the U.S. pledge to defend the security of Israel and did not threaten to cut off any military or economic aid to it.

Another significant point is that the confrontation between Begin and members of the congressional foreign affairs committees did not come out in favor of Begin. According to U.S. reporters and commentators it was the most violent confrontation between an Israeli prime minister and the members of the committees.

So Begin returned to Israel with the din of the criticism that he heard from President Carter and the Congress resounding in his ears.

Begin tried to cover his failure in the United States by creating the impression among Israelis that the United States is trying to interfere in Israel's domestic affairs and trying to get rid of him. Obviously Begin wanted to use such tactics to arouse anger and patriotic feeling among the Israelis. But U.S. sources strongly denied the Israeli prime minister's allegations, and all the Israeli papers warned Begin about clashing with the United States.

Nevertheless, Begin stood in the Knesset and obstinately insisted on his stands. This situation raises important questions.

If Begin so insists, why does he send Weizman to Cairo when he knows well that his stand is rejected?

Why does he send Dayan to Washington if he declares that he is ready to go to the extreme in his dispute with Washington?

These are all attempts by Begin to gain time in the hope of finding a way out of the tight spot in which he finds himself. This confrontation between Begin, on the one hand, and the United States and his opposition within Israel and abroad, on the other, will undoubtedly lead to determining stands unequivocally and unmistakably. This is undoubtedly a big gain for the Arab cause, and it is all due to the peace initiative, which has compelled all the parties to declare their stands publicly so that right can be distinguished from wrong.

AL-AKHBAR TAKES ISSUE WITH MOSCOW REPORT ON ECONOMY

NC030734Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-AKHBAR today comments on Radio Moscow's exploitation of the discussions which took place at the People's Assembly here on providing foodstuffs and consumer goods for the people. The paper points out that the radio picked up phrases and words out of context and tried to paint a picture of our economic life. Radio Moscow used these phrases and words to say what it wanted to say. It alleged that Egypt's economic life before and after the setback in the sixties was much better than what it is now. The reason for this, Radio Moscow says, is that there was economic and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and Egypt in the sixties based on a firm foundation of equality.

AL-AKHBAR points out that what Radio Moscow terms as equal cooperation was wholly responsible for all the economic deterioration and stagnation in all aspects of life which Egypt suffered. This cooperation, the paper adds, was never equal. It was a cooperation based on looting and plundering and the maximum theft of Egypt's resources. Deliverance came only when Egypt got rid of this looting, which Radio Moscow--following the pattern of the Soviet propaganda--calls equitable cooperation.

AL-AKHBAR adds: Let Radio Moscow realize that Egypt is doing well. If prices are high, then this is a world phenomenon. Prices are much higher in other states. If Egypt is suffering shortages in certain commodities, it is still better off in this respect than many other nations and better off than the Soviet Union itself. Our economy now depends on a firm foundation, as all the world can testify. This is a foundation which cannot be shaken by monopolies and the desire to loot, which were described as equal cooperation in the language of Soviet subservience.

MILITARY COURT PASSES SENTENCE IN AL-JIHAD CASE

NC032216Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2040 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 3 April--The Supreme Military Court, sitting in Alexandria under the presidency of Brig Gen Mamduh ash-Sharabini, today sentenced Ensign [Mulazim Bahri] 'Amru Jamal ad-Din 'Atallah, the eighth one accused in the extremist religious organization Al-Jihad case, to 3 years hard labor and a fine of 200 pounds.

ITALIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC022019Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The Italian foreign trade minister arrived in Cairo this afternoon for a 3-day visit to Egypt. The radio correspondent has learned that the Italian minister will meet with Dr 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Qaysuni, deputy prime minister for economic and financial affairs; Zakariya Tawfiq 'Abd al-Fattah, minister of trade and supply; and Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah Ibrahim, governor of the Central Bank. They will discuss means of strengthening economic cooperation and increasing trade between Italy and Egypt. Contracts pertaining to the implementation of Italy's $40-million loan to Egypt, agreed upon in April 1977, will be signed during this visit.

SADDAM HUSAYN ADDRESSES PALESTINIAN FILM FESTIVAL GROUP

JN311440Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Mar 78 JN

[Excerpts] Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn met at his office at the National Council Building on the evening of Thursday 23 March with the chairmen of the delegations participating in the third festival of Palestinian films and programs being held in Baghdad.

Saddam Husayn expressed his admiration of the humanitarian revolutionary and effectiveness which the participants have exhibited in their films about the just cause of our Palestinian people. Saddam Husayn answered questions from those attending. The questions dealt with aspects of the Palestine issue and the just struggle which our Palestinian people are waging to regain their occupied lands.

Asked about the extent of Iraq's support of the Palestine cause, Saddam Husayn said: As the Palestine cause is a fair cause, it has defenders. In our view, in order for freedom to be comprehensive, one should support not only his own cause, but the causes of all peoples. In addition to the fact that the Palestine issue is a pan-Arab issue, it is also a humanitarian issue.

Asked about the difficulties presented by geographic remoteness and its effect on Iraq's aid to the resistance movement, Saddam Husayn said: Geographic remoteness has an effect on our aid. Nevertheless, and despite the extreme difficulties, we are seeking to deliver aid to our Palestinian brethren. We have been doing so for the last 10 years. Moreover, we increase our aid whenever the Palestinians find it is needed. We view Israel as an aggressor, therefore, we believe that the enemy should withdraw unconditionally. Palestinian and Lebanese steadfastness should continue in order to expel the enemy from Lebanon.

Asked whether the United Nations is helping Israel by sending UN emergency forces into southern Lebanon, Saddam Husayn said: We do not say that the United Nations is helping Israel in this respect; however, we do say that Israel always rejects the UN resolutions and does not adhere to them.

Asked whether Israel, since the late forties, has had the objective of acquiring the Litani River and making south Lebanon a demilitarized zone, evacuating the Palestinians from it, and if Israel now has achieved this objective through its aggressive war against south Lebanon, Saddam Husayn said: It is now evident from rational and realistic standpoints, and even to those who are biased in favor of Israel, that the question is not one of Israeli security but one of constant aggression.

In its aggression against south Lebanon, Israel occupied land to a depth of 10 to 15 kms, and suffered substantial casualties, despite the fact that the force confronting the enemy--the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement--had far less material capabilities. The balance was drastically in the enemy's favor. Nevertheless, the fighters held out in the face of the enemy. This clearly shows that Israel cannot colonize the Arabs.

Asked about the countries which help the Arabs, Saddam Husayn said: It is clear that there are two major centers of polarization in the international balance of power--the Soviet Union, the socialist countries, the progressive states and the revolutionary movements in the world on one side and the Americans and their allies on the other. There are other forces which are not under the hegemony of the two superpowers.

Those who are assisting the Arabs and showing their friendship toward them are the Soviet Union, the socialist countries, the progressive countries, and the progressive and nationalist movements in the world. As for those who are hostile to the Arabs, they are the United States and their allies in the line of confrontation against the Arabs.

Asked about the amount of Iraqi aid to south Lebanon and whether it was sent via Syrian territory, as the Syrian foreign minister said that Iraqi aid was not sent through Syrian territory, Saddam Husayn said: We say that we sent aid and volunteers to support the Lebanese and the Palestinian resistance. The Syrian foreign minister said the volunteers and the Iraqi aid did not enter Lebanon via Syrian territory. We do not want to comment on the statement made by the Syrian foreign minister. We say that we sent volunteers and aid and that the volunteers arrived in south Lebanon. We will continue to support the fighters in accordance with our capabilities whenever the situation requires fighting and every time we have an opportunity to send aid.

Asked about the phenomenon of division in the Arab situation, Saddam Husayn said: The phenomenon of Arab division at present is related to the impact of international politics on the Arabs vis-a-vis this issue. Furthermore, there are other factors that there is no time to discuss now. Therefore, with the Arabs continuing on the path of progress and development and with their acquiring the initiative to express their sovereignty, they will grow stronger. This division is temporary and not a permanent situation.

Asked about the PRC's stand toward the recent developments in south Lebanon, Saddam Husayn said: We are confident that peoples throughout the world are progressive and humanitarian and are defending the truth. It was no surprise to us that you here assumed the role of defending the truth and it was no surprise to us that there were large-scale denunciations of the Zionist aggression from many parts of the world. As for the stand of the PRC, you know that the Soviet Union and China have stands different from those of the states which voted to send the UN emergency forces to south Lebanon. Often in its general policy China announces its support of the Arabs, however, sometimes in its expression of its own policy, the Arabs might be affected like others due to the Sino-Soviet dispute.

Asked about the use of oil as a weapon in the battle, Saddam Husayn said: In our view, oil is an extraordinary commodity and material. We believe that this commodity and material is Arab and is part of Arab lands. If war breaks out between the United States and the Soviet Union, for example, each side would use all its national resources against the other, including everything in the economy. Therefore, it is natural that the Arabs should use their economy in a manner that will preserve their sovereignty and rights, while not using this important commodity in a manner that might harm mankind.

Asked about the party's and revolution's opinion on Yusuf as-Siba'i's assassination, Saddam Husayn said: Political assassination as a mode of action for us, as a revolutionary party, is rejected on principle; however, when many world peoples have been compelled to kill, these peoples did not do so in order to express the love of crime, but they regard the method of killing as one of the formulas for upholding life. Therefore, as for revolutionary activities which lead to killing and bring losses in kind, such as the activities of the Palestinian fedayeen--when they find such methods necessary to express themselves--we are not against them.

AL-JUMHURIYAH: SYRIA BARRIER TO REJECTIONIST FRONT

JN040852Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 4 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 4 April--The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH published here today notes that the decision to send Zionist enemy war minister 'Ezer Weizman to Cairo was due to Anwar as-Sadat's recent statements.

In his recent statements, As-Sadat pledged to give new concessions to the Zionist enemy to reach a settlement. It was reported that he has introduced a change in his special plan for settlement in order to facilitate the negotiations.

The paper says: What is strange is that the Egyptian ruler continues to make concessions at a time when he himself is announcing that his capitulationist initiative has failed and that the Zionists deceived him.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds: Naturally, this is a sure indication that Anwar as-Sadat is fully determined to continue his concessions contrary to all national considerations.

The paper affirms that As-Sadat will not stop making concessions "until he acquires Zionist approval of a liquidationist settlement." The paper says that this matter is realized by the enemy government and that it acts accordingly with As-Sadat's regime.

The paper continues: The Egyptian ruler will not stop at squandering the national sovereignty of fraternal Egypt, but will go far beyond that to squander pan-Arab sovereignty, as if it belonged to him.

The paper adds: His statement the day before yesterday about the possibility of introducing changes on the West Bank borders is new evidence of his willingness to squander the entire Arab issue as if it is an issue under his own tutelage. This is in defiance of the feelings of the Arab nation and a squandering of the right of the Palestinian Arab people to their homeland and self-determination.

The paper continues: This line clearly affirms that Anwar as-Sadat has lost all national dignity and noble pan-Arab feelings. All the possibilities which some people are pinning hope on--namely, that As-Sadat might come back again to the proper course--are desparate hopes.

The paper says that the Arab masses which condemned the shameful visit of the Egyptian ruler to occupied Jerusalem are fully confident that a genuine rejectionist and liberation front can be established.

The paper adds: The fact that some liberated Arab regimes are deceived by the maneuvers of the Syrian regime and its slogans is the thing which prevented the establishment of such a front.

Concluding its commentary, AL-JUMHURIYAH says: The required stand should be based on reviewing things through mobilizing the resources of the genuine rejectionist forces and adopting their sound struggle ideas because this is the only way to mobilize resources for the pan-Arab struggle on the path to the proper confrontation of the liquidationist conspiracy.

STUDENT RALLY SUPPORTS PALESTINIANS, CONDEMNS SYRIA

JN311657Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Mar 78 JN

[Text] The Secretariat of Arab students in Mosul, Iraq, has staged a mammoth demonstration on the Day of the Land. The students raised placards and slogans saluting the steadfastness of the Arab people in the occupied homeland and southern Lebanon.

The students strongly condemned the path of capitulationist solutions and the stands of the Syrian regime, which is conniving with the Zionist enemy. The demonstration condemned the regime's silence and its attempts to stifle the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement by preventing various kinds of aid from reaching the resistance.

The students gathered in front of the headquarters of the Arab Students Organization and sent a number of cables to the National Council of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, the Palestinian resistance, the Arab League secretary general and the Syrian regime. The cables denounced the connivance and betrayal of the agent regimes and saluted the struggle of the Arab masses in confronting the treacherous Israeli aggression.

The Secretariat of Arab Students issued a statement on the Day of the Land pointing out that this popular uprising came as an expression from the Arab masses rejecting all the capitulationist projects. The Day of the Land, the statement said, symbolizes the determination of the Palestinian masses to reject the Zionist existence and all kinds of settlements. The statement said that the Day of the Land expresses the will of the Palestinian people to continue the revolution until the total liberation of Palestinian soil.

INA REPORTS ON FUNERAL OF PFLP'S WADI' HADDAD

JN031819Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 3 April--Our masses and our Arab nation today mourned in a mammoth procession the martyr struggler, Dr Wadi' Haddad, one of the leaders and founders of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], who died last Tuesday.

The martyr's son and family walked behind the bier. The funeral procession, which started at the Unknown Soldier Square at 1600 today, was led by Comrades Dr Munif ar-Razzaz, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; Tariq 'Aziz, member of the National Command; Sa'dun Shakir and Tahir Tawfiq, members of the party's Regional Command; heads and members of the bureaus of the National Command and several advanced cadres of the party. Also leading the procession were Dr George Habash, secretary general of the PFLP; several members of the PFLP Political Bureau; representatives of the general command of the Palestinian revolution and the Fatah revolutionary council, as well as representatives of the various factions of the Palestinian resistance, Arab and African liberation movements and delegations of Arab nationalist and progressive forces.

LEBANESE PSP LEADER JUNBLATT CONCLUDES VISIT

JN020813Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 2 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 April--Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, left Baghdad today following a 5-day visit to Iraq.

In a statement prior to his departure, Junblatt said that he had discussed with officials in the Ba'th Party National Command the latest developments in the Arab area and the situation in Lebanon following the continued Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon. He also discussed the danger menacing the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

Junblatt expressed his appreciation for Iraq's continued support for the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

OIL MINISTER WANTS DOLLAR DROPPED AS OIL PRICE UNIT

JN0808402 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 3 April--Revolution Command Council member and Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim has reaffirmed Iraq's support for the idea of eliminating the dollar as the accounting unit against which prices of crude oil are fixed so as to offset losses resulting from the drop in the dollar value in the developing countries.

In an exclusive statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN, 'Abd al-Karim said that Iraq will do its best to prompt the OPEC countries to protect their financial and economic interests which are suffering great losses as a result of the drop in the value of the dollar.

'Abd al-Karim explained that the use of another currency to fix oil prices might be one of the formulas which should be adopted in order to offset these enormous losses.

'Abd al-Karim said the oil-producing countries have a duty to tackle the acute and continuous decline in the value of the U.S. dollar. He said this decline is actually a deliberate attempt by the United States and its allied capitalist countries to overcome their economic crisis. Furthermore, the capitalist countries are the only benefactors from the drop in the value of the dollar, for while they purchase the oil at reduced prices, they are exporting processed commodities and similar services and projects at a high cost.

'Abd al-Karim said that the drop in the value of the dollar is a kind of pressure on the oil-producing countries aimed at showing them the consequences to their economies should they change the prices of their oil.

INFORMATION MINISTER RETURNS FROM BAHRAIN

JN0318512 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 3 April--Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, minister of information, returned here today after having participated in the inauguration ceremony of the GULF NEWS AGENCY in Bahrain last Saturday.

Hammudi has stated that the ceremony was an opportunity for information ministers of Arab gulf countries to meet and reiterate their support for the joint project and for the continuation of the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the information ministers of Arab gulf countries which convened in Baghdad in February.

YUGOSLAV AIR FORCE COMMANDER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

JN0112092 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 1 April--Air Gen Enver Gemalovic, commander of the Yugoslav air and air defense forces, arrived here at noon today at the head of a delegation on a 5-day visit to Iraq. The Yugoslav guest was received at Baghdad international airport by commander of the air force and air defense, several senior air force officers and members of the Yugoslav Embassy staff in Baghdad.

A program has been prepared for the delegation to visit the air force college and Basrah Province to see tourist and historic sites.

KING HUSAYN PRESIDES OVER CABINET MEETING

JN0316102 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 3 April--His Majesty King Husayn today presided over a cabinet meeting devoted to a discussion of the current situation in the area, the responsibility of building Arab solidarity and the contribution to the organization of joint Arab action. At the 3-hour meeting his majesty reviewed the current Arab situation, the delicate circumstances through which the area is passing and the urgent and persistent responsibilities of the Arab states to safeguard the rights, security and safety of their pan-Arab entities.

His majesty analyzed the components of the intrinsic Arab power, the means to bolster Arab solidarity and joint action and the utilization of Arab capabilities in the service of the common pan-Arab destiny. His majesty called for expeditious action to restore Arab solidarity and cooperation in order to formulate a comprehensive plan to confront the impending dangers.

The council of ministers headed by his majesty discussed the bases of the desired joint Arab action. Jordan believes that these bases should be adopted by a summit conference and be adhered to by the Arab homeland for the sake of its fateful issue. The council of ministers also discussed in detail the document which the Jordanian Government is proposing as a basis for an Arab plan of action. The document includes the Jordanian Government's detailed proposals pertaining to the regulation of Arab relations, means to build the intrinsic power, the political and diplomatic aspects, an information policy, the economic and financial aspects, means to strengthen the steadfastness of the people in the occupied land and the formation of joint establishments which would regulate Arab efforts so that the Arabs could shoulder their responsibility of safeguarding their security and rights.

Before presiding over the cabinet meeting, His Majesty King Husayn met with the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court and the commander in chief of the Jordanian armed forces in the prime minister's office.

PRIME MINISTER BADRAN LEAVES AMMAN FOR TRIPOLI

JN0410192 Amman JNA in Arabic 0955 GMT 4 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 4 April--Prime Minister Mudar Badran this morning left Amman for Tripoli for a 3-day official visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah at the invitation of 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary general of the General People's Committee.

During his visit Badran will deliver to Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi a message from King Husayn. Badran will also hold talks with Al-'Ubaydi and high-ranking Libyan officials on the fraternal relations between the two countries and the current Arab situation.

Prime Minister Badran is accompanied on this visit by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim, the secretary general of the Royal Committee for the Affairs of Jerusalem, the director of the prime minister's office, the prime minister's secretary and the prime minister's press secretary.

Badran was seen off at Amman airport by Chief of the Royal Court Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Staff Lt Gen Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, the royal cabinet minister, ministers and a number of high-ranking officials. The Libyan ambassador in Amman also left aboard the same plane.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN MEETS VISITING BRITISH MP

JN032034Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan tonight met with Mr John Tomlinson, British member of Parliament and minister of overseas development [name and title as received], and the members of his delegation. His highness spoke to the delegation about Jordan's program to evenly redistribute the population, including areas where major projects exist, such as the Jordan Valley project, the potash and copper projects in Wadi 'Arabah and the industrial zone in eastern Amman, in accordance with a comprehensive regional plan to reduce the pressure on the capital Amman and to facilitate better services in it.

The guest British minister expressed his interest in the projects being implemented by Jordan, especially the collective housing schemes. He affirmed that Jordan's progress on the basis of regional planning is the sound course toward a fair distribution of the national income.

KING HUSAYN TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA IN NEAR FUTURE

JN011223Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Apr 78 JN

[Text] An official source in the Royal Hashemite Court has stated the following: At the invitation of Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, His Majesty King Husayn will pay an official visit to Yugoslavia shortly. During the visit, his majesty will hold official talks with the Yugoslav president on issues of mutual interst.

SYRIAN-JORDANIAN INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE TO MEET

JN031005Y Amman JNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 3 April--The Syrian-Jordanian industrial coordination committee will hold a meeting in Amman Saturday to review reports submitted by committees from industries subject to coordination between the two countries; that is, industries whose capital investment is half a million dinars or more.

The industry and trade ministry under secretary and head of the Jordanian side, Dr Hashim ad-Dabbas, has stated that the committee will draw up a standard form for studies on the economic feasibility of new industrial projects to be submitted to the ministries of industry in the two countries to enable them to determine the feasibility of such projects before licensing them. The Syrian side to the committee's 3-day meeting will be headed by the assistant minister of industry.

NEW EXECUTIVE BODY FOR WORKERS FEDERATION ELECTED

JN041032Y Amman JNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 4 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 4 April--A new executive body for the Federation of Workers Union in Jordan has been elected in the presence of representatives of the Labor and Interior ministries.

The new executive body is as follows: Sami Hasan Mansur, chairman; Muhammad Hasanayn 'Awdah, vice chairman; Shahir al-Majali, secretary general; 'Abd ar-Razzaq Hamad, Sabri Madi, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Mahmud Hirzallah, Ahmad at-Tawalibah, Ahmad al-Khabbas, Hamad Samih, Musa al-'Amri, Khalaf 'Ata, 'Abd al-Qadir al-Bakri and 'Abd ar-Rahman Nasr, members.

AL-HUSS, DEPUTIES DISCUSS SOUTHERN LEBANON

NC031909Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss this evening met in his house in Ad-Dawha with Deputies Rashid as-Sulh, Bahij Taqiy ad-Din, Mikha'il ad-Dahir, 'Ali al-Khalil, Munir Abu Fadil, Hasan ar-Rifa'i, Nazim al-Qadiri, Nasri al-Ma'luf and Husayn al-Husayni. They discussed developments in southern Lebanon, particularly the implementation of the Security Council resolution.

After the meeting and in reply to a question, Prime Minister al-Huss said: My meeting this evening with this group of deputies was an opportunity to discuss the latest developments in southern Lebanon following the Israeli aggression. The discussion was constructive. We dealt with various aspects of the issue, including the course which the state is taking to insure rapid implementation of the Security Council resolution--which called for Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory and deployment of UN forces preparatory to the return of the legal authority and Lebanese sovereignty in the area.

The discussion also dealt with domestic and foreign aspects of the problem, and with the need for the refugees to return to their homes as soon as possible. I can say that this meeting was beneficial and fruitful; frank and constructive views were expressed which will help us to overcome as soon as possible the ordeal which the country is suffering.

FOREIGN MINISTER BUTRUS MEETS WITH ARMY COMMANDER

NC031430Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The minister of defense and foreign affairs, Fu'ad Butrus, met with the commander of the Lebanese Army, Staff Brig Gen Victor Khuri, and the staff officers. The meeting dealt with matters of army organization, training and equipment.

Following the meeting Minister Fu'ad Butrus said: We are still interested in the implementation of both parts of the UN Security Council resolution pertaining to the Israeli withdrawal and the restoration of the state's sovereignty in the south. Butrus added that his meeting with the president was for this purpose. The meeting took place following his meeting in the Ministry of Defense with the army commander and some staff officers.

Asked whether he will assign some of the Internal Security Forces to the south as a first step toward taking over security tasks in the south, Minister Butrus replied: All these matters are under consideration. The state will do everything it can to attain these goals. Minister Butrus added that the U.S. military team will visit him tomorrow at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs instead of at the Ministry of Defense as previously scheduled.

Minister Butrus said that he had read in the newspapers the cable sent by Speaker al-As'ad to Dr Kurt Waldheim, but he refused to comment on it.

To a question concerning the truth of a report by a French official source to the effect that a French paratrooper unit has been alerted to leave immediately for Lebanon, Butrus said: Perhaps this was mentioned as a possibility. However, as far as I know, nothing has yet been decided on this.

Asked for his interpretation of the contradictory Palestinian statements, Minister Butrus said: I do not care about any statement, whether positive or negative.

In my view the main thing is the practical implementation and abidance by the facts and principles imposed by the sanctity of Lebanese territory, its sovereignty and the real interests of the Palestinian problem.

PRESIDENT SARKIS MEETS WITH AMBASSADOR PARKER

JN031056Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1038 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 3 April--Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis this morning met with U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Richard Parker. Ambassador Parker declined to comment on the nature of the meeting or the questions they discussed, although they apparently dealt with the question of facilitating implementation of the UN Security Council resolution on southern Lebanon.

GENERAL SIILASVUO EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN BEIRUT

NC031607Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The commander of the UN forces, General Siilasvuo, is expected to arrive in Beirut tomorrow to discuss the current situation and the deployment of the UN forces which have arrived to date.

NORWEGIAN UN FORCES MOVE TO SOUTHERN LEBANON

NC031225Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The UN forces continued to take up position in southern Lebanon. The Norwegian unit of UNIFIL moved at 1000 today to southern Lebanon to take up positions in the eastern sector. The Norwegian unit had been staying at the military base at Beirut International Airport since it arrived in Lebanon 2 days ago.

LEBANESE NOTE FOR ISRAELIS GIVEN TO UN OBSERVER

NC031934Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The head of the military committee for the return of the evacuees to the south, Col Zayn Makki, today convened a meeting of all members of the committee to discuss ways of returning the evacuees to their regions and homes.

Earlier, Colonel Makki received the senior UN observer and a Canadian liaison officer. He handed them a Lebanese note containing questions for the Israeli side concerning the return of the evacuees to the south and Israel's attitude on this matter.

Colonel Makki is to call on Prime Minister Salim al-Huss tomorrow to discuss the decisions adopted by the military relief committee and the measures taken to facilitate the return of evacuees to their villages.

UNIFIED COMMAND OF LEBANESE FORCES MEETING

NC031920Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The unified command of the Lebanese forces is meeting at this time under the chairmanship of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil to discuss the current situation in Lebanon in light of the latest developments. The commander of the Lebanese forces, Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, met today with Paul Molineaux, (?political counsellor) in the U.S. Embassy, and held a general discussion on domestic and international developments.

SOUTHERNERS STAGE DEMONSTRATION DEMANDING RETURN

NC031400Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] About 500 southern Lebanese demonstrated this morning in front of the temporary headquarters of the Chamber of Deputies. They demanded to return to their villages and cities in the south under the Lebanese law and the protection of the Lebanese Army. The demonstrators carried Lebanese flags and cheered for the long life of Lebanon and its sovereignty.

INA: IRAQ CONTINUES SENDING AID TO EVACUEES

JN031259Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 3 April--The Lebanese authorities this morning received a new shipment of the aid which Iraq sent to the evacuees from southern Lebanon. The shipment, which was carried by 23 trucks, consists of 530 tons of foodstuffs and milk for children. It was handed over to a representative of the supreme relief committee in Lebanon under the supervision of the counselor of the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut. Twenty-two vehicles had crossed the Iraqi borders on 27 March. They were followed by eight vehicles on 31 March.

REPORTS DESCRIBE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

Voice of Lebanon

NC031941Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 3 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Reports from the south this evening indicate that though some rockets were fired toward An-Nabatiyah, the roads were crowded all day with cars carrying evacuees returning to the border villages.

A unit of the gendarmerie forces was seen arriving in the Tyre area, and 50 percent of the shops were open. In the Tyre government house, the commander of the French contingent met with the district officer. They discussed the need for increasing the number of patrols in the city and its environs. The district officer also met with the director of the Tyre secondary school and discussed the resumption of classes this week.

It is reported that Israeli aircraft today flew reconnaissance missions over the southern region. Israeli troops were also seen erecting fortifications. Meanwhile, observers have estimated that more than 300 evacuated families returned to border villages today. Seventeen UN military trucks passed through Sidon during the day. The Israeli forces erected 19 wooden houses in 'Abbasiyah village.

Baghdad INA

JN040957Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0928 GMT 4 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 4 April--Zionist positions and the joint forces positions last night exchanged intermittent artillery fire along the Al-Qula'yah-An-Nabatiyah axis.

The INA correspondent in southern Lebanon reports that 11 shells fell in Kafr Rumman town north of An-Nabatiyah, disrupting transportation throughout the night and causing some material damage. The correspondent adds that enemy aircraft flew continuously in the skies of the southern area, particularly above Tyre and An-Nabatiyah cities. Meanwhile, enemy forces continue to reinforce their positions and to place barbed wire around occupied villages.

The correspondent says that there is no indication that the enemy is planning to reduce his forces in southern Lebanon in the near future, particularly as he is obstructing the return of Lebanese evacuees to their homes and reinforcing his positions on all axes.

Paris AFP

TA031727Y Paris AFP in English 1652 GMT 3 Apr 78 TA

[Text] Beirut, April 3 (AFP)--Israelis, Palestinians and United Nations troops were all reported to be digging in today in south Lebanon.

Israeli bulldozers dug trenches and reinforced positions in the (Bazuriyeh) region near the Burj ash-Shamali Palestinian camp, a few kilometers (miles) east of Tyre. Israeli strengthening of fortifications in recent days led observers to conclude that the Israelis did not intend to withdraw immediately.

The Palestinians also received reinforcements in the last few days. Conservative Lebanese leader Camille Sham'un said the Palestinian guerrillas now numbered 15,000 in south Lebanon, but observers generally estimated the guerrilla force at between 7,000 and 10,000 men.

Some 700 Norwegian troops are to arrive in south Lebanon on Wednesday, bringing to 1,900 the number of United Nations soldiers in the area. The UN Interim Forces in Lebanon are to total 4,000, and countries must still be found to supply the second half of the contingent.

Some Lebanese dailies reported today that the French contingent of UN troops could be increased to 2,000 men and that paratroop units in France had been placed on alert, but there was no confirmation of the reports.

Opinion was divided in Lebanon over the role of the UN forces. Kamil As'ad, speaker of the Lebanese parliament, sent a message to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim asking for a troop increase for transformation of the UN contingent into a "dissuasion force."

But Abu Iyad, a member of the Fatah Central Committee, expressed fears in a statement to the Libyan news agency that the UN force would take control of the whole of Lebanon to "liquidate the Palestinian revolution."

From 'Ayn Ibil, south Lebanon, AFP special correspondent Boni de Torhout reported that French UN troops had been putting up barriers at their positions in an arc around the port city of Tyre.

Several hundred meters (yards) away, the Israelis were doing the same and did not give the impression they were anxious to pull out. Israeli forward posts were supported by tanks or motorized infantry.

The Palestinians also retained strongholds in the Tyre pocket, north of the Litani River and at the crusaders' castle of Beaufort, from where their rockets pose a threat to upper Galilee.

While there was almost no "fraternization" among Israelis, Palestinians and UN soldiers, the population was visibly friendly toward the UN "blue helmets." A fisherman from Tyre said there should be more UN troops, "10,000 if necessary because their presence reassures us. They are here to bring us peace."

PARKER REPORTEDLY ASKED FOR UN FORCES TO INTERVENE

JN031307Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1152 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] London, 3 April--The weekly magazine AD-DUSTUR reports here today that it was the U.S. ambassador in Beirut who asked Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis to quickly approve the entry of the UN troops into southern Lebanon. The magazine explains that President Sarkis informed the U.S. ambassador that he could not approve such a decision "except after he received the green light from Damascus."

The magazine adds that the U.S. ambassador reassured President Sarkis and informed him that according to definite information available to him, Damascus would not object to such a decision, but that on the contrary, it would view it as an implementation of its strategy regarding the Palestinian issue.

It will be recalled that this strategy is based on following the path of the capitulationist settlement and consequently recognizing the Zionist enemy usurpation of Palestine.

TRADE UNION LETTER DISPUTES IRAQI CLAIM ON LEBANON

JN031834Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] The executive office of the Syrian General Federation of Labor Unions has sent a letter to the president of the Iraqi Confederation of Trade Unions in which it said:

On 23 March 1978 INA carried the text of a cable which, it said, was sent by your confederation to the various Arab trade union federations concerning the situation in southern Lebanon. The cable was full of fabrications and cast doubt on Syria's position concerning the Israeli aggression.

The fact is, the methods used by the Iraqi regime are now exposed to the Arab masses in general and our Iraqi Arab people in particular. Today these masses are wondering, as they have wondered before, about the Iraqi regime's own position on the Arab nation's struggle against the Zionist enemy, especially now since this regime has, through its exposed practices and evasions of national responsibility, placed itself in one trench with the forces which are hostile to Arab struggle. The Iraqi regime has limited its position to voicing slogans, leveling accusations and fabricating lies against all the forces which have committed themselves to the crucial issues of the Arab nation. Syria is in the forefront of these forces.

Brother unionists, do you not see our point that through such practices against Syria, the Iraqi regime is only fulfilling the commitments it pledged under the ill-omened March agreement [presumably the 11 March 1974 declaration ending the Kurdish rebellion], foremost of which is to delay action against the Zionist enemy and weaken the Syrian position? In their fulfillment of these suspicious commitments, the Iraqi rulers resort to waging campaigns of instigation and lies, using all their tools, collaborators and hirelings.

The Syrian position was represented by the following series of actions:

First, Syria gave immediate military aid to the PLO and the resistance movement. Syria continued giving this aid daily without interruption. Furthermore, our country did not stop the passage of aid and material and manpower support for the Palestinian resistance, as INA claimed. By this intentional defamation, the agency wanted to deceive and mislead the masses about the real Syrian position.

Second, Syria opened its airspace and territory to all military and humanitarian aid to the Palestinian revolution. This was announced and stressed by President Hafiz al-Asad before the whole world in the speech he delivered on 18 March 1978 on the occasion of the completion of the Euphrates Dam. Indeed, all aid from friendly and brotherly countries passed through Syrian territory and reached the PLO in Lebanon.

Third, the Syrian Air Force was placed at the disposal of the command of the Arab deterrent forces in Lebanon. This air force protected the Lebanese airspace and prevented the Israeli air force from shelling Palestinian camps and Lebanese towns and villages. It should be noted that the Arab deterrent forces are protecting five-sixths of the total area of Lebanon.

While placing all these facts before you, we urge you to ask the Iraq Government to send its armed forces to southern Lebanon. Rest assured that Syria is ready to open its airspace and territory to these armed forces. We also urge you to raise your voices so that the Iraqi armed forces also come to the Syrian front to face the Israeli enemy. The Iraqi regime should not confine itself to a propaganda confrontation over the radio and television.

We doubt that the Iraqi regime will dare make such a decision. The conspiracy is vast and serious with many complications and devious means. It is obvious that the aim of this conspiracy, which began with As-Sadat's visit to occupied Jerusalem, is to weaken Syria, silence its voice, involve it in secondary sideshows and render it incapable of confronting the big conspiracy.

Syria will remain the stronghold of steadfastness and liberation. Time will prove the soundness of Syria's position and firm commitment to the crucial issues of the Arab nation.

PRESS COMMENTS ON EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI PEACE EFFORTS

JN030720Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 4 Apr 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] In its commentary today, AL-BA'TH calls for a new assessment of the concept of the Israeli-Arab conflict. AL-BA'TH says: It is now clear that the fundamental task of As-Sadat's regime consists not only of achieving a separate peace with Israel but also in deflecting Egypt from its duties, restoring its regional character and confining it to this framework. This U.S.-Israeli design has begun concentrating on Egypt because of its special influence. But this does not mean that these efforts will be confined to that framework. A quick glance at the current Arab situation provides many signs of the role of certain other Arab countries which are involved in or maintain silence about the U.S.-As-Sadat scheme.

In the column "Opinion," under the headline "The Recurrent Maneuver," ATH-THAWRAH today says: The maneuver which occurred before the U.S. administration installed terrorist Menahem Begin as Zionist prime minister is now recurring to overthrow Begin himself. The White House wanted a strong Israeli Government capable of making decisions and peace in the Israeli style or capable of achieving a settlement in accordance with the U.S. concept. But the United States is now looking for a more flexible and dynamic leader than Menahem Begin.

ATH-THAWRAH then reviews the Zionist objectives behind the invasion of southern Lebanon.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES ARAB LEAGUE'S RIYAD

JN031309Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi received Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad at 1200 today. During the meeting, they discussed the meetings of the Political Committee of the Arab-European Dialog and the political situation in the Arab area, as well as the latest developments in the Arab area.

NEPSZABADSAG CARRIES HUNGARIAN-SYRIAN COMMUNIQUE

AU311326Y Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 26 Mar 78 p 3 AU

[Text of communique on MSZMP delegation's visit to Syria]

[Text] At the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command, an MSZMP delegation led by MSZMP Politburo member Jeno Fock visited the Syrian Arab Republic between 20 and 25 March 1978. The delegation was received by Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic.

The delegation had talks with 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command, Jabir Bajbuj, assistant secretary of the Regional Command; and a negotiating group of the party led by Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, member of the National Command and foreign affairs secretary.

The delegation met with leaders of the Damascus Party Committee, the Political Academy and the National Presidium of Syrian Trade Unions, visited Dar'a Province and Al-Quantyirah and inspected the textile factory built with Hungarian assistance in the capital.

At the talks, held in a spirit of mutual trust, friendship and cooperation, the two parties' representatives briefed each other on their countries' positions and their parties' activities and their imminent tasks. They reviewed bilateral party and interstate relations and exchanged views on aspects of the international situation of mutual interest, with particular regard to the latest events of the Middle East situation.

They established that tension continues to increase in the Middle East and that this is due to continued Israeli aggression, supported by imperialist circles, against the Arab peoples, the endeavor to occupy and annex Arab territories and the rejection of the rights of the Palestinian Arab people. All this threatens international peace and security.

They noted that President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and separate negotiations with Israel promote the assertion of imperialist and Zionist interests in the area and are not leading to a durable and just peace. They condemned the steps of the Egyptian leadership, because its compromising policy disrupts Arab solidarity, harms the Arab peoples' interests and encourages the aggressor. They confirmed that they will act against the policy of capitulation.

They emphasized that Israel's aggression in southern Lebanon is a flagrant violation of Lebanese territorial homogeneity and independence. Its purpose is to liquidate the Palestinian people and the PLO, aggravate the position of Syria and create favorable prerequisites for achieving peace based on capitulation. The two parties' representatives condemn the aggression and demand the immediate, full and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli troops from Lebanon and the observation of the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial homogeneity.

The sides stressed that, in the situation that has developed, the unity of the progressive Arab countries and organizations and their concerted action are of fundamental significance. In this connection, they stressed the results of the conferences held with the participation of leaders of the progressive Arab states and the PLO in Tripoli, Algiers and Damascus.

The Hungarian delegation expressed its appreciation of the active and constructive role assumed by the Syrian Arab Republic and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party under the leadership of President and Secretary General Hafiz al-Asad in strengthening Arab solidarity and cooperation. The two parties' representatives took a stand in favor of strengthening and deepening the extensive cooperation linking the progressive Arab countries and forces to the Soviet Union and the socialist countries.

The two parties' representatives reaffirmed that the resolution of the Palestinian problem is the most important issue of the struggle underway in the Middle East area. They advocated a comprehensive and just political solution of the crisis, a fundamental prerequisite for which is the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and fulfillment of the Palestinian Arab People's national right, including the right to return to their homeland, self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. They asserted that a lasting and just peace can only be achieved with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the PLO, the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The two parties' representatives condemned tyranny, the policy of racial discrimination and the violation of human rights and endeavors to create Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

Reviewing the international situation, they established that the process of detente has continued to deepen. The policy of detente and peaceful coexistence has become a determining factor of the international situation and has a positive impact on all areas of relations. They pointed out, at the same time, that imperialist and extreme reactionary forces strive to weaken detente by intensifying the arms race and producing new mass destruction weapons. They stressed that effective steps must be taken so that political detente will be followed by progress also in the disarmament sphere.

In consolidating international peace, the strengthening of peace and security in Europe is of outstanding significance. The parties expressed their appreciation of the results that have been achieved and noted close interconnections between peace and security in Europe and the Middle East area.

They assured the progressive democratic forces of Asia, Africa and Latin America and the national liberation movements struggling for the liquidation of the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia and the liberty and independence of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia of their support and solidarity. They stressed the need for cooperation among the nonaligned countries and all progressive forces of the world in the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and neocolonialism and for peace and social progress.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party representatives expressed their gratitude for the MSZMP's firm principled attitude and consistent support for the cause of the Arab peoples and the Palestinian people.

The negotiating parties established with satisfaction that relations between the MSZMP and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party have continued to deepen and are contributing to expanding the multifaceted cooperation between the Hungarian and Syrian peoples and the two countries. They expressed their intention to continue to further develop and strengthen their relations in every area. In this spirit, they signed a 1978-79 cooperation workplan between the two parties.

During its visit to Damascus, the MSZMP delegation met with Khaled Baghdash, secretary general of the Syrian Communist Party Central Committee, and several of the party's Politburo members.

KHADDAM RECEIVES ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON

JN031646Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received at his office today Mohamed Yazid, Algerian ambassador in Beirut. The meeting was attended by the Algerian charge d'affaires in Damascus.

Later Mohamed Yazid said that the meeting took place within the context of consultation, coordination and the exchange of viewpoints between the two fraternal countries--Syria and Algeria. Yazid said that he expressed Algeria's thanks to Khaddam for the facilities steadfast Syria has given to Algerian assistance to the Palestinian resistance to face the Zionist aggression.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI DISCUSSES FREEDOM OF MAN

LD031530Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpts] The brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi yesterday visited the January Martyrs' Secondary School at Benghazi. As soon as he arrived at the school, the students and teachers began chanting and declaring their closeness to him as a leader and pioneer of the revolutionary march. The brother Colonel delivered a lecture to the students at the school in which he explained chapters 1 and 2 of the Green Book.

[Al-Qadhdhafi--begin recording] When man is free, he can [words indistinct]. Man cannot be free unless man possesses all the weapons he fears. Tanks, airplanes, guns and artillery frighten people when they are possessed by somebody else. People will not be free so long as these weapons remain in the hands of the army, the government and so on. For man to be freed of this fear, these weapons must be owned by man. All people must learn the use of arms, and weapons must be at their disposal.

The rich frighten people because they can do what they please. They can use their money, which is a weapon against the poor. We should free people of this fear by taking this weapon and distributing it among the people, and thus all people will have money and not just some. Authority frightens people because authority has the police, laws and prisons at its disposal. It has arms and the right to detain people. It can try people and punish them. These things frighten people. So to free people of fear, authority must rest with the people. All people must feel they possess authority, health and weapons, and then they will have no cause for fear, and there will be no reason for fear.

Authority, arms and money frighten people. So if we wrest these from the hands of the government, the army and the police and place them in the hands of the people, then the people become free. This would be in the interest of all. I have authority. I could become a president (?or even a king). If I were a shallow person, I would say it is in my interest to keep authority in my hands. But if I view things seriously, and I view my own life, I find that when authority is wrested from me as a person and placed in the hands of all people including myself, it is better even for me.

If you possess authority now and there is a conflict over authority, it might be wrested from you by force and used against you. Then you will constantly be frightened by authority. People fear authority and all of them fight over it. You have seen coups take place in the Arab countries and countries of the Third World. He who possesses authority today might not have it tomorrow. Authority will always be a source of fear for those possessing it. So to free people of this fear, all should share authority equally.

The rich today fear socialism. Even if we let society continue without socialism, he who is rich today could become poor tomorrow. When he becomes poor tomorrow or when his children become poor after 10, 15 or 20 years, then he would wish he had been in a socialist society and would regret having opposed socialism when he was rich. We are liberating man. But now we can only apply this to ourselves: the liberation of the Libyan Arab man. [end recording]

MAURITANIA

STATE INDUSTRY TO BE OPENED TO PRIVATE INVESTMENT

PA031432Y Paris AFP in English 0655 GMT 3 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, April 3 (AFP)--Mauritania's State Industrial and Mining Company (SNIM) is to be opened up to private investment, the Mauritanian Cabinet has decided. The reason for the move is to develop iron-ore deposits north of the existing mining complex at Zouerate, and an estimated 350 million U.S. dollars-worth of foreign investment has been promised. A cabinet communique said Mauritania would still control 51 per cent of the new company's shareholding.

SNIM will [words indistinct] off from the loss-operating Mauritanian Mining Company (SOMIMA) which exploits copper deposits at Akjoujt. The new moves are expected to get formal parliamentary approval today.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI CHAIRS SSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

LD031754Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Apr 78 LD/EA

[Text] Leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri at 1000 today chaired a joint meeting of members of the Politburo of the Sudanese Socialist Union [SSU] Central Committee and the Council of Ministers at the Ministerial Council General Secretariat. The leader president informed the meeting of Sudan's moves in the Arab and African arenas, what has been achieved toward the realization of national unity in Chad, [words indistinct] resolutions of the Arab League in its current [as heard] meeting [word indistinct].

Then the leader president asked Mr 'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president of the republic, to inform the joint meeting of the results of Sudan's initiative to bring about the national unity in Chad. His excellency then reviewed the positive results achieved by the Sabha and Benghazi meetings. All this was due to the great efforts of all participating in those meetings, and he pointed out that the meetings (?had won) the confidence of the Chadian Government and other parties and set the right atmosphere for sincere efforts to achieve full national unity in Chad.

The first vice president of the republic referred to the immediate steps agreed upon, which included a cease-fire and an end to propaganda campaigns. His excellency added that the next meeting, to be held in Tripoli next (?July), will crown the achievements already realized. The leader president then gave Ar-Rashid at-Takir Bakr, vice president of the republic and foreign minister, the chance to speak. He reviewed the results of the recent Arab League Council meeting in Cairo and described what had gone on at the meeting, which was attended by 16 states and the PLO. His excellency touched on the question of Arab solidarity and the desire of the Arab states to achieve that solidarity and restore accord and peace among them so that they could face up to the dangers threatening the Arab nation in order to bring about a just and permanent peace in the region. He touched on the [word indistinct] the Arab League Council to leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to lead the move aimed at restoring peace and amity among the brothers.

The meeting discussed at length what had been reported by the first vice president and the vice president and foreign minister. Ending the meeting, leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri assured those present that what had been achieved and is still being achieved in the Arab and African arenas springs from Sudan's firm stand on the causes of Arab nations and African states [words indistinct] and solidarity through negotiations and peaceful means. His excellency directed the vice president and foreign minister to give a full statement on the deliberations to the People's Assembly.

TUNISIA

L'ACTION: CARTER FACES CREDIBILITY PROBLEM

LD030959Y Tunis L'ACTION in French 25 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Moncef Chihi article: "Beyond a Setback"]

[Text] Begin's recent visit to the United States and his talks with President Carter have confirmed the general feeling that there is a danger that the Middle East situation could explode again and lead to a fifth Arab-Israeli war. Begin's setback in Washington means that U.S. Middle East policy entails a contradiction fraught with consequences.

Whatever solutions to the Middle East crisis Washington may suggest, its efforts will remain futile as long as they are sabotaged by Israel. Like his predecessors, President Carter will find it difficult to defend his country's image and its credibility in the eyes of Arab countries and a large section of international opinion. The American contradiction lies mainly in Washington's proclaiming its unshakable support for Israel in all spheres and failing to advocate any means of effective pressure to reduce its ally's intransigence. The massive American aid to Israel does not take into account the Israeli leader's behavior, and this in fact has only increased the number of obstacles to any peace initiative, including any American peace initiative.

These contradictions have been keenly felt in Arab countries and among the Palestinians who have finally accepted, even though most unwillingly, the idea that American influence is of determining importance as far as the solution of the Middle East conflict is concerned, even though they have been unable to form a united front against Israel by forgetting their old quarrels.

Since the June 1967 war all these contradictions, whether Arab or American, have merely strengthened Israel's dangerous propensity to indulge in aggression and expansion and to defy law on the fallacious pretext that it must insure its own security.

Until the Zionist state modifies its behavior by accepting the idea that the Palestinian people are entitled to have a sovereign and independent state of their own and by withdrawing from Arab territories occupied by force, the chances for a global and fair settlement will only continue to decrease and the Israeli-Arab war may well continue for 1,000 years more.

IDF SPOKESMAN DENIES TIME ALLEGATIONS OF 'CRACKDOWN'

TA040828Y Jerusalem POST in English 4 Apr 78 p 3 TA

[Text] The IDF spokesman has denied allegations in the current issue of "TIME" magazine of an Israeli "crackdown" on the West Bank during the IDF action in south Lebanon. In a statement, the spokesman said a thorough investigation was carried out at the sites mentioned by "TIME."

The "TIME" report concedes that a number of demonstrations took place on the West Bank during the operation, but says the Israeli response was "indiscriminate." It quotes a Western diplomat in Jerusalem as saying, "there is a widespread feeling that we haven't seen this kind of repression here for years, if ever."

"TIME" describes alleged incidents at schools in Bayt Jala and Bayt Sahur, satellite towns of Bethlehem, in which Israeli troops are said to have thrown anti-riot CS gas canisters into classrooms. The report makes no mention of any disturbances caused by pupils.

The IDF spokesman, however, said that pupils at the Bayt Jala school had erected a stone barricade at a crossroads on the main traffic artery linking Jerusalem with Bethlehem, and had stoned all vehicles which approached, preventing traffic from passing through.

The commander of an IDF unit sent to end the disturbance asked the students to stop the stoning and disperse. In reply, they directed a hail of stones at him, and he followed standing instructions on riot control by ordering his men to use teargas grenades. The spokesman flatly contradicted the "TIME" version that grenades were thrown into classrooms.

The spokesman also denied a story told by a Ramallah student to the "TIME" correspondent, in which he claimed that he was one of a group of 100 men taken to military government headquarters to pull out weeds "for most of the night."

The student also claimed that soldiers cut his hair with garden shears.

The IDF spokesman said no one was brought to army headquarters at Ramallah to pull weeds, and added that the prison service cuts the hair of all detainees, Jewish and Arab, for reasons of hygiene. There was no truth whatever in the allegation, he said, of garden shears having been used for such "haircuts."

IDF FORCE IN LEBANON 'SIGNIFICANTLY' REDUCED

TA031917Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Apr 78 TA

[Excerpts] The IDF spokesman this evening reported a significant reduction of IDF forces in southern Lebanon. The exit of forces from the area, the spokesman reported, has been going on for a week now.

TERRORISTS USED SAUDI-SUPPLIED U.S. ARMS IN BUS ATTACK

TA040805Y Jerusalem POST in English 4 Apr 78 p 1 TA

[By Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] The 11 terrorists who perpetrated the massacre on the Tel Aviv-Haifa highway on March 11 were armed with weapons from the Saudi Arabian Army.

The Jerusalem POST has learned from a police source who examined the weapons found at the scene of the incident, which cost 35 civilian lives, that the terrorists were armed with U.S.-made M-16 automatic rifles, light anti-tank weapons and standard U.S. Army explosives--all of which bore Saudi Army markings and serial numbers.

This is the first time that Israel has positive proof that weapons from Saudi stockpiles are being handed out to the terrorists. Until now it was known only that the Saudis supported the terrorists with money, training facilities, and covert cooperation from Saudi embassies around the world.

This is also the first time that American-made weapons, including the relatively sophisticated LAW anti-tank missile, have been used by the terrorists against Israeli civilian targets, even though they were used by the Palestine Liberation Organization and leftist factions in the Lebanese civil war.

An Israeli official questioned on the POST's findings yesterday said that this underlines the dangers of supplying American arms to the Saudis, and supports the Israeli claim that the Saudi arsenal is indeed the arsenal of the entire Arab world--including the most implacable of Israel's foes.

NEXT WEIZMAN TRIP TO FOCUS ON WEST BANK ISSUE

TA040748Y Jerusalem POST in English 4 Apr 78 p 1 TA

[By Anan Safadi]

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman will return to Cairo within the next few days for further talks with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat in an effort to hammer out differences over the political future of the West Bank. This issue figures high in the Israeli-Egyptian peace deliberations.

As-Sadat has demanded that Israel declare agreement to the application of all principles of UN Security Council Resolution 242--including that of withdrawal--to the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Egyptian leader said, however, that he would agree to minor rectifications on the pre-1967 frontiers which separated Israel from the West Bank.

According to Western and Egyptian sources, As-Sadat said that once Israel accepted the principle of withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza, he would make certain that Palestinian representatives join him in negotiating with Israel a transitional settlement based on an amended version of Premier Menahem Begin's self-rule offer for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

As-Sadat declared that unless Israel makes her position clear regarding an eventual pullback from the West Bank, he sees no reason to renew the parallel negotiations of the Israeli-Egyptian Military and Political committees which he suspended over two months ago.

As-Sadat, nevertheless, expressed willingness to maintain direct contact with Weizman, whom he praised yesterday as being "sincere in his call for peace, just as he is sincere to his country." The two met last Thursday and Friday in Cairo.

The question of Sinai took only a few minutes of their meetings as As-Sadat and Weizman were reported to have approached a compromise on the controversial issues of Israeli settlements and airbases. Israel has offered to recognize Egypt's sovereignty over the entire desert peninsula within the framework of a peace settlement.

Weizman's talks with As-Sadat were debated by the Israeli Cabinet for six hours on Sunday. But no details were divulged. The cabinet only issued a statement expressing regret that As-Sadat had turned down Israel's proposals for reviving the joint Military and Political committees talks.

Begin last night reviewed the current state of peace negotiations with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis. Lewis reportedly conveyed the U.S. administration's desire to see a resumption of full-fledged direct peace negotiations between Egypt and Israel.

One unconfirmed report said that Lewis went to the premier's office in the Knesset to explore Begin's current position against the possibility of a Washington plan to put forward proposals to break the current stalemate.

The ambassador himself told reporters that the U.S. has not formulated any "formal" ideas for bridging gaps between Egypt and Israel. He said that he and Begin discussed a possible visit by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan to Washington and the renewal of Middle East shuttle trips by special envoy Alfred Atherton.

The Americans are understood to believe that the peace momentum could be accelerated by concluding a declaration of principles which would not require a commitment on two issues opposed by Israel--total withdrawal to the pre-1967 frontiers and the creation of an independent Palestinian entity. The Americans, nevertheless, advocate that Israel agree to the principle of implementing Resolution 242 "on all fronts" and to an eventual plebiscite in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The latter would determine the one million population's choice between two options--continued link with Israel within the framework of the status quo or affiliation with Jordan.

Meanwhile, government circles in Jerusalem would not say whether Weizman would take any new proposals on his return trip to Cairo. These sources, however, conceded that the defence minister will have extensive reviews of Israel's peace proposals with Begin and cabinet leaders within the next few days.

In an interview with Cairo's "OCTOBER" magazine earlier this week, As-Sadat declared that Weizman "had something to say" last week. As-Sadat did not elaborate beyond saying that Weizman did not come to Cairo on a picnic but to break the deadlock in the peace talks.

As-Sadat said he was determined to maintain open channels with the Begin government, although he described the premier as an "old guard politician," whose stand was "hardline and intransigent."

DAYAN CONSIDERING SLANDER SUIT AGAINST HA'AREZ

TA032210Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2145 GMT 3 Apr 78 TA

[Text] Minister Moshe Nissim today replied in the Knesset, in Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's name, to a question by MK Roni Milo regarding the rumor about the U.S. personality who told the Israeli personality that the administration in Washington was interested in the dismissal of the prime minister, a report which MK Yosi Sarid claimed originated with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. The foreign minister, in his reply, which was read by Minister Nissim, said that he had appealed to the legal adviser to consider submitting a claim on his behalf to issue a slander order against the paper HA'AREZ which published the remarks by MK Sarid. The foreign minister stressed in his reply that he was not the source of the report nor was anyone close to him, and that he had heard the report for the first time when he was listening to the news on the radio.

DAYAN HOLDS UNSCHEDULED TALKS WITH CEAUSESCU

TA040800Y Jerusalem POST in English 4 Apr 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By David Landau]

[Excerpt] Bucharest--Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan met with President Nicolae Ceausescu yesterday in the first of two meetings he will be having with the Romanian leader before he returns home tomorrow. Israeli sources said that "nothing dramatic" emerged.

A lighthearted hint that the talks were not all plain sailing was given by Dayan at a dinner given in his honour last night, when he said jovially to his host, Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei, that if he wished he could keep today's meeting with Ceausescu short--simply by agreeing to everything the Romanian leader had to say and not answering back.

Yesterday's meeting with Ceausescu was unscheduled. Dayan turned up at the Foreign Ministry for his planned meeting with Foreign Minister Andrei when he was told that the Romanian president wished to see him. Their talk yesterday is believed to have centered on the Palestinians--the Romanian position being that the Palestinians have a right to self-determination, including setting up an independent state if they so wish. Israel's ambassador here, Abba Geffen, was the only Israeli present at the meeting.

The Palestinian issue came up again yesterday, during Dayan's visit to the National Museum in Bucharest. An entire wing of the museum is devoted to gifts which President Ceausescu has received from visiting foreign leaders. It was only half jokingly that Dayan's hosts pointed out the Palestinian exhibit, complete with Palestinian flag and a bronze etching of Jerusalem viewed from the Mount of Olives. Also on display in the wing are photographs of Ceausescu with the various foreign leaders--including one of him embracing Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yas'r 'Araft.

Israel was also well represented in the museum, with a whole collection of gifts, most of them archaeological artifacts, received over the years from Golda Meir, Abba Eban, and Menahem Begin. But pride of place has been given to a rather hideous bronze plate, featuring the hammer and sickle emblem--a gift from the New Communist List (RAKAH).

AMBASSADOR LEWIS COMMENTS ON MEETING WITH BEGIN

TA031950Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Apr 78 TA

[From special Newsreel]

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman will leave for Cairo next week. This was reported this evening by the U.S. ambassador to Israel at the end of a talk with the prime minister. Ambassador Lewis spoke with the defense minister this morning and in the early evening with the prime minister in his office in the Knesset. At the end of the meeting, the ambassador told correspondents: [begin recording]

[Lewis--in English] I understand from the prime minister and from the defense minister that he hopes to go back some time in the next week or so, but I don't believe any dates have been set for that. [end recording]

Was a possibility put forward in the talk of a trip by Foreign Minister Moseh Dayan to the United States? and a possibility of the return of roving Ambassador Alfred Atherton for another shuttle trip to the Middle East? the U.S. ambassador was asked. He replied: [begin recording]

[Lewis--in English] We talked about both those possibilities. Nothing has been firmly agreed on yet, but I feel sure that there will be more direct contact in the not very distant future. [end recording]

The U.S. ambassador explained that his hour-long talk with Menahem Begin was intended to check out the current state of the talks between Israel and Egypt after the defense minister's visit to Cairo, as well as to analyze the next steps in the negotiations. These steps, according to the ambassador, include further talks between Israel and Egypt and the United States. [begin recording]

[Lewis--in English] There have been no formal proposals, no formal plans, given to either side. [end recording]

He said that the United States is briefing both sides all the time on its ideas. Some of this briefing was done during President as-Sadat's visit to Washington; and another part, during the visit made later by Prime Minister Menahem Begin to the U.S. Capital. These ideas are ones which President Carter thinks can bridge the gap between the sides, but they are in no way an imposition of views. The U.S. ambassador added that he had been asked to report to President Carter and Secretary of State Vance on the contents of his talks with the prime minister.

SHARON REITERATES IMPORTANCE OF SINAI SETTLEMENTS

TA011634Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 1 Apr 78 TA

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon said the cabinet had not made any mistake in the course of the negotiations with Egypt. He was addressing Herut youths at Kefar Hamakabiya. The agriculture minister explained that the importance of the settlements in the Yamit district lay in their ability to maintain the stability of possible demilitarization agreements in the Sinai Peninsula. Mr Sharon noted that it was important that Egypt should know that every violation of demilitarization agreements would cause an Israeli reaction, something which could come about only if there are Israeli settlements in the demilitarized zone.

According to Ari'el Sharon, the pace of establishing settlements in Yamit district has been insufficient during the last 10 years and, therefore, establishing them is something that has to be done today.

PERES SCORES BEGIN NEGOTIATING STANCE IN INTERVIEW

TA3112l4Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 31 Mar 78 pp 13, 18 TA

[Interview with MK Shim'on Peres by Shelomo Ginnosar--time and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: The prime minister talks of a national consensus on three points of security and foreign affairs (no negotiations with the PLO, no return to the 1967 borders and no establishment of a third Arab country). Does such a consensus exist, and if not--how would you define the differences between the Likud's concept of security as opposed to that of the Alinement?

Answer: Shemu'el Tamir said that what is needed is national solidarity. I agree with him. However, what Begin is asking for is not national solidarity but partisan solidarity. He wants the entire nation to support Herut's platform--a platform that has no majority in the Knesset.

The question is: Are people ready to make concessions in Judaea and Samaria?

Of 115 Knesset members (excluding RAKAH members) 65 are in favor of compromises, including territorial ones, in Judaea and Samaria; however, what had happened during the negotiations with Egypt was that Herut's platform was in fact presented as the center of the negotiations.

The question is, therefore, whether to proceed on the way toward peace (and this has no chance unless there is a willingness to compromise in Judaea and Samaria) or to all gather around the Herut platform which, as has been predicted, has led us to a deadlock.

As for the consensus: On military matters there was always a consensus because when the enemy attacks the government, every government, has only one plan: to ward it off. This is not the case regarding political plans. Here there are alternatives. Every alternative is complete: it has positive sides and negative sides. It is impossible to say that there is a national consensus on the positive half or on the negative half. It is true that when it comes to a long list of topics there are some concerning which we and the United States are in agreement: objecting to a Palestinian state, no inclusion of the PLO in the negotiations, the interpretation of 242 as a withdrawal from "territories," not from "all the territories" (not returning to the 1967 borders and defensible borders).

From that point on, however, we differ on the following points:

We are in favor of applying 242 on the Jordanian front, and if the language of 242 is foggy--this fog will fall on that front as well.

We are specifically in favor of a territorial compromise in Judaea and Samaria. We are in favor of Jordan's joining in the negotiations on the future of Judaea and Samaria. We are in favor of a comprehensive settlement, but do not object to partial settlements. In any case, there will not be a comprehensive agreement in Judaea and Samaria at once. We are in favor of conscientiously maintaining coordination with the United States. On the subject of the settlements we claim that considerations of timing (negotiations) andof place (populated areas) must be taken into account.

If indeed Begin thinks there is a national consensus all the more reason for him to accept our views, and then there will really be such a consensus. We are not instigating disagreements for disagreement's sake.

The choice is not between two partisan positions, but between the possibilities of proceeding toward negotiations for peace and determining Israel's future as a country whose Jewish character is insured.

Question: It is clear today that in order to advance the negotiations with Egypt the settlement activity should be suspended. On the other hand, 2 months ago the Alinement decided that the settlements must be strengthened. Do you see a need to change that decision?

Answer: No. There is no need to change the decision. No one is interfering with our plowing more land in the Rafah approaches. As for the settlements, the timing must certainly be taken into account and steps that might be interpreted as provocative must be avoided. Our policy was not founded on the "seize" method. The struggle for defensible borders leans on the settlements, but is not limited to them alone. I am sure that if we had conducted the negotiations on the Sinai we would have told President as-Sadat: Defensible borders are essential. And an agreement acceptable to both parties would have been possible without our risking two mistakes: A. The willingness to give up all of the Sinai and only later adding, "I have forgotten the main thing...." B. Suggesting Egyptian sovereignty and retaining within it Israeli settlements with an Israeli defense system. Too much cleverness has hurt us and has acted like a boomerang.

Question: Is it true that the operation in southern Lebanon was perhaps militarily successful, but was carried out without a political scenario and therefore may end in a political failure?

Answer: I will not state my opinion on that subject as long as the operation is underway. In critical times the nation must stand united and support its army. Such criticism today may cause damage.

Question: How is it possible to get out of the deadlock into which the peace talks with Egypt have gotten?

Answer: Without changing our position regarding 242 we will remain at a deadend. The argument has ultimately gone back to its roots and there is no way to avoid the question: Is Israel willing to waive its control over Judaea and Samaria or not. I am not saying that if Israel declares its willingness to make concessions that Husayn will hurry to join the talks; but without such a declaration As-Sadat will not renew the talks and the world will blame us for the failure of the negotiations. That way we will also widen the breach with the United States and will act against Israel's basic interest: maintaining the country's Jewish character and the desire to achieve peace. Peace is an Israeli aim and we do not need U.S. or Arab support to have such an aim.

Question: Where does Egypt stand today, following the developments since As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem?

Answer: Egypt thinks it has benefited--even if it does not achieve peace. It has strengthened its status in the United States. Those who think As-Sadat wanted to drive a wedge between the United States and Israel should have been careful not to lend a hand.

I know that As-Sadat's reasons for his peace moves were practical: despair over wars, a difficult economic situation and more. I feel that now President as-Sadat has developed a kind ofhistoric feeling. Whether there are grounds for that feeling or not--it serves as more fuel for his political chariot.

Question: In your recent meeting in Salzburg, President as-Sadat invited you to visit Egypt and you agreed. When are you going?

Answer: The invitation stands, and I will choose the time for the visit according to political developments.

RECORD STATE BUDGET PASSED BY KNESSET

TA290800Y Jerusalem POST in English 29 Mar 78 p 2 TA

[Excerpt] A weary Knesset last night passed a record state budget--IL178,185,000,000--for 1978/79.

Tabling the document for second and third readings, Finance Committee Chairman Shelomo Lorentz (Aguda), declared: "When the budget was presented for its first reading, the minister of finance promised he would slash IL3,000 million from the total. In bringing the budget before you today for final approval, I must say that Mr Ehrlich has kept his word.

"In fact, he has cut the budget by IL3,815 million, to be exact. Defense outlays will drop by IL1,500 million, and the other ministries' budgets will be reduced by IL2,315 million."

BANGLADESH

ZIA: DEMOCRACY TO BE RESTORED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

BK030912Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 3 Apr 78 BK

[Text] President Ziaur Rahman has said the present government has all regards for democracy and wants restoration of full democracy as early as possible.

Addressing the national rally of Ansars [defense volunteers] at Shaktipur near Dacca this morning, he, however, regretted that a section of people are working against the democratic process and are trying to undo the government's efforts toward this end. He warned them that the government is determined to thwart their evil designs.

He said the people of the country will never forgive those who are conspiring against the interests of the country to achieve their selfish aims.

Turning to the Ansars, whom he described as the second line of the country's defense, President Zia commended their role in the maintenance of internal law and order and in the development efforts of the country as well. The president called upon the Ansars to come forward and cooperate with the government in its nation-building activity.

In this regard, the president expressed his happiness that some industries, particularly cottage industries, are being set up for the welfare of the Ansars. He said the measures have already been taken for a higher training and welfare of the Ansars.

INDIA

ARMY CALLED IN TO RESTORE ORDER IN HYDERABAD CITY

BK031250Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Apr 78 BK

[Text] Four persons were killed and 20 injured in the police firing in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secundarabad today following widespread violence. Curfew has been clamped in Hyderabad and Secundarabad and will be in force till Wednesday morning. The army has been called in to move into the disturbed areas as the twin cities observed total bundh [general strike] in response to a call by the Janata Party, CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] Majlis Itehadul Moslem League and other opposition groups.

The commissioner of police has said restrictions on the movements of people have been imposed following certain acts of violence, arson and attacks on police parties. During the daylong violence mobs attacked the official residence of the state education minister breaking windows and door panes. The minister has since vacated the house. Road blocks were put up by the demonstrators in several areas.

The AIR [All-India Radio] Hyderabad correspondent says normal life was paralyzed with buses off the roads and educational institutions and establishments closed. Demonstrators set on fire six municipal garbage vans and one city transport bus. Mobs also attacked police stations, post offices and railway stations.

Death Toll Rises

BK031604Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Apr 78 BK

[Excerpts] Nine persons were killed and 80, including 50 police personnel, were injured in police firings in different places in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secundarabad today following widespread violence. This was stated by the inspector general of police in Hyderabad this evening. Curfew has been clamped in Hyderabad and Secundarabad and will be in force till Wednesday morning.

Meanwhile, the former chief minister of Andhra Pradesh, Mr Vengal Rao, has said that 7 persons were killed and 31 injured in the police firing at different places in Hyderabad alone. He told the AIR [All-India Radio] correspondent that in spite of the curfew, arson and violence continue in the old city area. Our correspondent says that the state government vehicles and office records were burnt. Mobs attacked police stations at several places. Meanwhile, reports have been received that violence has spread to Warrangal, Karimnagar and a few other towns.

The chief minister, Dr Chenna Reddy, in a broadcast from Hydereabad a short while ago, appealed to the people to help restore normalcy by desisting from all acts of violence and destruction of public property.

ANOTHER KILLED IN UTTAR PRADESH; CURFEW REIMPOSED

OW021916Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1738 GMT 2 Apr 78 OW

[Text] New Delhi, April 2 (AFP)--The death toll in the communal clashes at Sambhal in Uttar Pradesh state in north India rose to 15 when an unidentified person was stabbed to death today. The incident occurred when the curfew was relaxed for 1 hour in riot-torn Sambhal town. Another person suffered serious injuries.

Reports reaching here said that curfew was reimposed, soon after the incident, for an indefinite period. One hundred and thirty persons have been taken into custody since Wednesday last when communal clashes broke out in Sambhal, police said. Meanwhile, the opposition Congress Party has demanded a judicial probe into the outbreak of violence at Sambhal town.

A party spokesman told the press that there was complete breakdown of the law and order machinery in the state and insecurity prevailed all around. Tension had gripped the adjoining areas of Sambhal, the spokesman added.

MRS GANDHI OPPOSES DEATH SENTENCE FOR BHUTTO

BK011116Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0836 GMT 1 Apr 78 BK

[Text] New Delhi, Apr. 1 (AFP)--Former Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi said in Uttar Pradesh state last night that she was against the death penalty awarded to former Pakistan Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto by the Lahore High Court, the SAMACHAR news agency reported today.

Mrs Gandhi stated, in a brief statement to the press, that she wanted to abolish the death penalty in India when she was prime minister but that the cabinet did not approve it. It was the first comment by Mrs Gandhi on the sentence meted out to Mr Bhutto.

PAKISTAN

GRENADE THROWN AT U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL IN LAHORE

BK031210Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1204 GMT 3 Apr 78 BK

[Text] Islamabad, April 3 (AFP)--An explosive device, reportedly a grenade, was thrown into the United States Consulate General compound in Lahore last night, informed sources reported today.

The explosion caused very little damage and nobody was hurt. An investigation was opened into the incident. Observers here recalled that Former Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, who has been sentenced to death, had accused the United States of causing his overthrow to prevent the building of a nuclear reprocessing plant in Pakistan.

A large number of Mr Bhutto's partisans were jailed both before and after he was sentenced to death.

Informed sources said that those responsible for the explosion, the first attack on an American establishment since the beginning of the present crisis, may have been seeking to avenge the expremier and his imprisoned supporters.

SUPREME COURT SETS 6 MAY FOR BHUTTO HEARING

LD011128Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 1100 GMT 1 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The Supreme Court on Saturday fixed the 6th of next month for continuous and day-to-day hearing in Rawalpindi of the appeals filed by Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and four others against the death sentence passed on them by Lahore High Court in the murder case of Mohammad Ahmed Khan.

The five-judge bench of the Supreme Court, which on Saturday took up miscellaneous matters connected with the appeals, directed the counsel for state to make arrangements for shifting of all convicts to Rawalpindi on the 4th and 5th of next month so that they will be available for consultation to their counsels. Counsel was told that if there were any insuperable difficulties in their shifting, the matter should be brought to the notice of the court. He was also asked to make available copies of the entire record of the case to defence counsels by the fourth of this month.

Counsel for Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was allowed by the court to file additional grounds for appeal after the entire record was made available to him.

FORMER ARMY CHIEF RELEASED FROM DETENTION

BK011720Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1713 GMT 1 Apr 78 BK

[Text] Islamabad, April 1 (AFP)--Former Pakistan Army Chief General Tikka Khan has been released from preventive detention, it was announced today.

Tikka, a leader of Pakistan People's Party, was detained 10 days ago for participating in a demonstration against the sentencing to death of Former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto by Lahore High Court on murder charges.

During the hearing of petition challenging his detention the Lahore High Court was informed today that detention orders had been revoked.

The petition was consequently disposed of as having borne fruit.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

DAILY REPORT volumes are published Monday through Friday in both paper version (mailed daily) and microfiche version (mailed weekly). The annual subscription fee for the paper version within the United States, Canada, and Mexico is $150 for any one volume and $50 for each additional volume. This includes occasional supplements. In microfiche the fee is $100 for any one volume, $125 for two volumes, $150 for three, $200 for four, $250 for five, $300 for six, $350 for seven, and $400 for all eight volumes. Foreign subscriptions outside North America are available from appointed foreign dealers or from NTIS. For information contact NTIS. U.S. government officials may obtain subscriptions at no charge directly from FBIS. Phone 527-2368 (area code 703) or write P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013.

The volumes are: I - People's Republic of China; II - Eastern Europe; III - Soviet Union; IV - Asia & Pacific; V - Middle East & North Africa; VI - Latin America; VII - Western Europe; VIII - Sub-Saharan Africa. Back issues or single copies are not available. Allow 30 days for processing new subscriptions. Mail remittances, inquiries, and address changes to the NTIS address below.

Note: The publications of the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS), which are sometimes cited in the DAILY REPORT, can also be ordered from NTIS in single copies or by subscription. In ordering, please cite the JPRS title, number, date and author if applicable.

Both the DAILY REPORT and JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at public and university libraries throughout the United States.

NTIS

National Technical Information Service
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Springfield, Virginia 22151